US, NMI flags lowered to half-staff. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai! Salpan Tribune THE CNMP'S FIRST PARTY.

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TUESDAY JUNE 4, 2019

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2 beaten in home invasion

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com

young woman and a minor were beaten during an alleged home invasion in San Vicente that was reported last Sunday.

captain assigned to the Office According to Tom Blas, Department of Public Safety of Homeland Security and

Emergency Management, his home was invaded midday on Sunday when most of his family were out.

A DPS press release stated that another individual was also beaten but was able to flag down a passing police car by the road near the residence in San Vicente.

See BEATEN on Page 4

CUC yet to fill 2 management posts

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has yet to fill vacancies in two critical management positions that are required

in order for the agency

court's orders.

The two positions are for a water and wastewater chief engineer and a water and wastewater division manager.

CUC executive director

to comply with a federal Gary P. Camacho told the CUC board that their human resources department continues to advertise the position of water and wastewater chief of engineer.

Negotiations are ongoing See CUC on Page 4



Flu-like illnesses on the rise on Tinian

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin encinares@saipantribune.com

The Commonwealth Health lic to get vaccinated.

increase" in flu-like illnesses data, CHCC said in a stateon Tinian and advises the pub-

influenza-like illnesses occurring on Tinian in the past several weeks."

"Influenza [or the flu] is a highly contagious viral disobserved "a sharp increase in by person-to-person con- and body aches.

tact through coughing or sneezing," the CHCC statement added.

Symptoms of the disease include cough, sore throat, runment yesterday that it has ease. It is primarily spread ny or stuffy nose, fever, chills, at high risk for serious flu com-

CHCC recommends a yearly flu shot for those who are six months or older.

"Vaccination is especially important for protecting those

See FLU-LIKE on Page 4

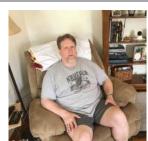
INSIDE



LOCAL

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation launches the "Rebuilding Tinian Together" fundraising

PAGE 9



NATION

The gunman who attacked his colleagues in Virginia had resigned by email hours before.

PAGE 14



LIFE & STYLE

The Netflix movie "Always Be My Maybe," is an Asian American rom-com with a twist.

PAGE 19



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



2 TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

'Men live 5 years less than women'

Statistically, men already have shorter lives than women at an average of five years less. That number becomes more sobering in the Commonwealth, where the incidence of noncommunicable diseases is high.

This information was the highlight in yesterday's proclamation signing and the designation of the week of June 10, 2019, to June 16, 2019, as

When: June 4, 5, & 6, 2019 (Tue - Thu) Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Venue: Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Call: (670) 285-4069

WIC provides healthy food, nutrition education, and breastfeeding guidance to more than 3,000 moms and

children in the CNMI. If you are pregnant, a caregiver, or a mom with children under 5, you can get the right

(Closed for Lunch 12-1pm)

2019 Men's Health Week.

POP UP CLINIC

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that this is the second time for the CNMI to celebrate the week.

Citing the numbers noted

in the proclamation, Torres said, "...I think it's alarming.
...It is important for men to take care of their health, especially in the CNMI where non-communicable diseases are really high."

"[Men predominantly] tend to not prioritize their health, so this proclamation is just to encourage men to bring back the importance of their health," he added.

Torres signed the proclamation alongside Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios at the governor's office conference room on Capital Hill.

"...Men are also very critical family units in our community," Palacios said in a short message after signing the proclamation. "Thank you to all our women who encourages us [to stay healthy] and thank you to our men."

Men's Health Week would kick off on Friday, June 7, with a roadside waving at the Atkins Kroll intersection. On June 10, 2019, there would be a health outreach at the governor's office from 9am to 10am and then a zumba kickoff

event at the Garapan Central Park starting 5pm.

On June 11, 2019, there would be another health outreach from 9am to 11am and 1:30pm to 3:30pm at a venue to be announced at a future date. On June 12, 2019, there would be another health outreach at the Department of Public Works from 9am to 11am and 1:30pm to 3:30pm, also at a venue to be announced.

On June 13, 2019, the health outreach would be held at the DPW solid waste facility, while June 14, 2019 is "National Wear Blue Day" to show support for men's health. (*Erwin Encinares*)



ERWIN ENCINARES

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios simultaneously sign two copies of the 2019 Men's Health Week proclamation yesterday.

USP4GG charity concerts postponed

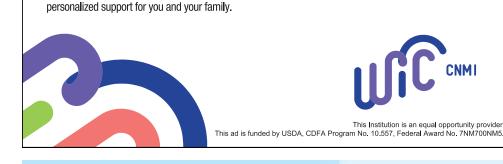
The U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance regrets to inform the public that the charity concerts that were initially set for June 14, 2019, at Hilton Guam on Tumon, Guam and for June 23, 2019, at Fiesta Resort & Spa on Saipan are postponed due to unavoidable

circumstances.

"We are currently addressing these circumstances, and we will make an announcement as soon as we have the final dates," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, chair, U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance CNMI, Guam, Hawaii and American

Samoa chapters. "We regret the inconvenience that this postponement has caused."

Tickets that have already been purchased will be honored at the rescheduled events, or could be refunded if unable to make it in the new dates. (PR)







Ecotourism with Marianas Trekking

or over 20 years, Marianas Trekking has operated adventure tours on Saipan and Guam, specializing in guided experiences for small groups exploring the natural attractions

of the islands.
Popular experiences on Saipan include hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, snorkeling, stand up paddle boarding, and off roading.

"Our goal is to give our guests the best day of their year. They are in a

day of their year. They are in a beautiful place, they are traveling with family or friends, and each day is very important. It is our pleasure to deliver an experience that they will always remember," said Mari-

anas Trekking Founder Chris Nelson. "People can go lots of places these days, and when they choose to come to Saipan and do an activity with us, it is our privilege

and responsibility
to care for each
and every one.
We think daily
about safety,
gear, weather,
ocean conditions, and how
to share the
culture and
beauty of the
islands in a

way that protects the environment. We want people to be more than just entertained, we want them to learn something and we want them to learn about good environmental practices that they can take with them to help the planet."

Marianas Trekking has also adopted Wing Beach, keeps it clean, pays for weekly trash removal through the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance Adopt a Bin program. It helps maintain and care for all the tour sites that it visits. To emphasize safety and environmental awareness, guests watch videos before their tour, and guides

"Good care of each other and good care for the environment is the key to our long-term future."

reinforce these practices throughout the activities. The companies custom furniture was handmade with local wood, it uses low energy lighting, and it has just gone paperless for its reservation and receipt systems. Most recently, Marianas Trekking recently attended a Bio Rock conference that constructed artificial coral reefs in Indonesia to see if someday the same technology could be used in The Marianas.

Austerity measures could hit NMC classes, programs

By ERWIN ENCINARES

The Northern Marianas College found out yesterday about another round of austerity measures that doubles their budget cuts, and that could result in further impacts to classes and programs at the CNMI's lone college.

During yesterday's fiscal

year 2020 budget hearing, NMC discovered that the \$400,000 that was cut from its budget in fiscal year 2019 was only half of its supposed budget cut after the central government's announcement of austerity measures.

The upper ranks of the NMC administration has already absorbed the cut, gettheir work hours. Instructional faculty members' work hours were left untouched to keep all classes and programs intact.

However, according to interim president Frankie Eliptico, the college is expected to give up 30 percent of its remaining budget for fiscal year 2019, or roughly \$800,000. The communication about the ting a 10-percent reduction in additional cuts, according to



Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico, left, shakes the hand of Department of Finance Secretary David Atalig after last Monday's NMC budget hearing for the House Ways and Means Committee. **ERWIN ENCINARES**

Man charged with sex abuse pleads not guilty

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A man, who allegedly sexually abused a minor and tried to jump off a building in an attempt to escape police, has pleaded not guilty.

Jordan N. Tudela, 36, pleaded not guilty to the charges of sexual abuse of a minor and disturbing the peace before Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja yesterday.

Through his lawyer, Office of the Public Defender's Jean Pierre Nogues, Tudela waived the reading of his rights and charges and requested that his constitutional rights be preserved.

Representing the Commonwealth at the arraignment was acting chief prosecutor Heather Barcinas.

turn to court on July 11 for a status conference.

Tudela remains in the custody of the Department of Corrections as he failed to post bail.

According to Saipan Tribune archives, the Office of the Attorney General charged Tudela with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree after he was allegedly caught sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl in Chalan Kanoa.

According to court information, Tudela's girlfriend and the alleged eyewitness of the assault told police that she caught Tudela sexually molesting the 11-year-old girl in their home in Chalan Kanoa back in December 2018.

The eyewitness told police that she panicked and ran out

Naraja ordered Tudela to re- of the room and immediately called for police assistance. Tudela reportedly left the house prior to the arrival of police officers.

> The 11-year-old victim allegedly told police later that Tudela had threatened to kill her family if she reports what he did to her.

> Tudela allegedly begged his girlfriend not to report the matter to authorities, and that she reported the incident nonetheless, prompting him to climb atop a three-story building in Chalan Kanoa and threaten to jump off.

> For over three hours, responding police officers and first responders urged him to get off the edge of the building and the incident caused massive traffic in the area. He was later arrested at the building site.

Eliptico, never got to his desk. "...NMC's cut for the cur-

rent fiscal year may be deeper than what was communicated to the college earlier this year," Eliptico said in an interview.

With roughly double the budget cuts for the remainder of the fiscal year, Eliptico noted that drastic measures such as the cancellation of classes are possible to meet the cuts.

That would impact some programs, meaning "classes that are offered to our students," Eliptico said. "To what extent, we don't know."

He wishes the CNMI Legislature could offer possible alternatives to prevent the possible disruption of classes.

"We are getting ready to graduate our students...and we are ready to begin our fall semester in two months," Eliptico said. "We want to open our semester with 100 percent of the courses and classes that we are hoping to offer anyway."

"...We need to determine what is the best course of action to minimize the impact to our students because, ultimately, they are who we serve and who we work for, so we want to make sure that any budget cuts are not significantly felt by [the students] and their journey to their degrees are not hampered or obstructed," Eliptico said.

He told Saipan Tribune that NMC received only a memo from the Office of the Governor last March 22, 2019, informing him of the austerity measures. Eliptico noted that NMC was the first government entity to implement the cuts.





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*2019 HONDA HRV LX 2WD. Based on 20% down. 3.25% APR, 26 pay periods per year on approved credit. Total deferred \$21,154.32.

Torres to name new DFEMS chief soon

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is looking to name a new commissioner that will head the Department of Fire and Emergency Services within the month. Juan Pua is still the acting DFEMS chief.

Former DFEMS chief Clyde Norita was not re-appointed to the post, but Tormay be named to another government post.

"Now that we've addressed withdrawing [Norita], we do have an acting commissioner but I've been looking at several [candidates] commissioners. We have several that's interested," said Torres.

He said he is also consulting Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Pala-

res has signified that Norita cios on the matter. "I'm sure we will be talking to several interested parties, entities, individuals. And we're going to select the best one for DFEMS.'

He, however, did not disclose the names of some of the candidates that they had interviewed or will be talking to, and just said that they will name the new commissioner in just a couple more weeks.

the administration in a different capacity, according to Torres. He was a former law enforcer where he rose from the ranks becoming a police major and became a member of the 14th CNMI Legislature in the House of Representatives.

He is also a former Criminal Justice Planning Agency executive director, and spe-

ees-in civil service and

excepted service in the Ex-

First responders, law en-

forcement, treasury cashiers,

and other employees with

critical government func-

tions will also have a modi-

fied 72-hour work schedule

Norita will still work in cial assistant with the Department of Public Safety before being assigned to head the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

> Norita was appointed by former governor Eloy S. Inos

to head the then newly-created DFEMS in 2015.

Torres also withdrew the re-appointment of Department of Corrections commissioner Vincent Attao last month.

1,000 join Islandwide Cleanup

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com

Roughly 1,000 community members participated in the annual Islandwide Cleanup last May 31 that was hosted by the Environmental Awareness Committee.

even cleaned up," she said.

even a baseball team.

ened to a week because of Super Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts.

Shai said that the Islandwide Cleanup is a staple event during Environmental Awareness Month, along with the Environmental Expo. These events focus on spreading awareness about the importance of eliminating pollution on the islands.

"That's what we want to raise—awareness. You can't know there's a problem unless we raise awareness. The environment is our home and the most important thing is keeping it clean and realizing that trash is pollution. We want to spread awareness about taking ownership of our trash and our island to make it beautiful again, healthy again, for all of us to grow and live in," Shai said.

The event was made possible by the committee with the help of partner agencies like the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, and the Department of Public Works.

The committee has yet to release the weight of how much trash was collected this year compared to last year.

Islandwide Cleanup coordinator Emma Iriarte said that 34 groups and about 1,000 people were scattered across the island during the cleanup last weekend.

"We did cover all the island coasts. We had the Federal Emergency Management Agency do Old Man by the Sea, we had Saipan Southern High School YEA club do Obyan, even those hard-toreach areas, we had volunteers pick those areas. We also did Beach Road, someone even took Suicide Cliff. Pau Pau was

The groups, Iriarte said, were a mix of government agencies, private sectors, hotels, school groups, nonprofit organizations, and

Zabrina Shai, Environmental Awareness Committee chairwoman, said this was the first time the usual monthlong event was short-

BEATEN

Blas, a former DPS spokeperson, said in a quick interview that his daughter was at home with a few children, but the children had left for a confraternity of Christian doctrine class at the San Vicente Church that is right behind their home.

Blas said he is not sure exactly what time, but in the hours that his daughter was alone at home, a person invaded their nome and beat up his daughter.

As of 11am yesterday, Blas said his daughter was stable, but was still at the hospital receiving attention for the bruis-

According to sources, the victim is a young woman, in her early 20s, and the minor individual who was also beat-

bance that was in progress at San Vicente.

At about 3:49pm, a police vehicle made its way toward the reported residence when an individual flagged them down by the side of the road. The individual told police that they were struck with an object that knocked them out but they later regained consciousness.

At about 3:52pm, the second police vehicle arrived and made its way toward the residence where officers met with the victim who made the call.

Officers learned that the female victim was asleep when she was awakened by the weight of a person over her.

The victim told police that she fought back as the suspect hit her several times but she then lost consciousness.

The victim said that, once she regained consciousness, she called 911 for assistance.

The victim was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center where she was seen and admitted. The victim reportedly remains stable and responsive.

Torres: Austerity protects employees million per pay period for things would improve befunded government employ-

Torres

By JON PEREZ

jon perez@saipantribune.com

Government-wide austerity measures could not be avoided and are necessary to protect the jobs of hundreds of employees in the Executive Branch and keep the government running, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

His administration's latest move involves a 72-hour work schedule that starts in the June 23 pay period—an unpopular decision. That means no work for those in the Executive Branch every payday Friday.

'This is definitely the best one [decision]," Torres said. "[Employees] get the whole day off; at that point they will have to spend time with their families and do other things.

He said that, before implementing the work hour cut, he consulted with his Cabinet members and talked to some in the private sector. "The private sector's only concern is keeping Revenue and Taxation, and Treasury open; so, we're giving them half-day operations."

The administration reportedly needs about \$3 the over 3,000 government employees in the Executive Branch.

If no work-hour reduction is implemented, the government will run out of funds by August, said press secretary Kevin Bautista in a separate interview.

Torres said the administration's

priority is keeping all of its personnel. "We wanted to make sure that no one is laid off. That's the reason why we have this. And, if an eight-hour cut is what we need, then we will do that."

He said Super Typhoon Yutu disrupted the CNMI's economy, on the heels of a record-high gross domestic product and revenues. "You've seen our numbers. ...We continue to monitor that. Looking at every number, every angle, and every option that we have, we've cut down our operations the last several months. It is still not enough for us to make sure that we don't layoff anyone."

Torres said his administration remains hopeful that fore fiscal year 2019 ends. "We're hopeful that it does get better. We're hoping for that.

> Torres' directive will have all agencies and departments under his office closing every payday Friday, starting on July 5 and until further notice.

The Office of Personnel Management will apply the new work schedule to all locally- and federally-

to keep needed public services functioning. The directive

ecutive Branch.

also includes no accrual and overtime payment, and compensatory time hours, and no new hiring for locally funded positions under the Executive Branch.

treat the flu." **FLU-LIKE** CHCC did not disclose any

From Page 1

plications, including young children, pregnant women, adults 65 years and older, and anyone with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease," the CHCC statement added.

"Worsening conditions like shortness of breath and difficulty breathing, chest pain, very high and persistent fevers, and ear aches are signs that you should go see your doctor. The doctor may then prescribe medications to

specific data pertaining to the numbers on Tinian or on the other islands. For more information, contact the Tinian Health Clinic,

gram at (670) 433-9233. For more information on THC programs and services, call (670) 433-9263.

or THC, Immunization Pro-

Follow CHCC's Facebook and Twitter at @cnmichec, check out their website at www.chcc.gov.mp, or call them at (670) 234-8950 for more information about CHCC programs.

CUC

From Page 1

for the hiring of a water and wastewater division manager,

he added. Camacho said that CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore has already completed an interview with an applicant for chief engineer as CUC is in dire need to fill the position.

He said Larry Manacop has been "doing a great job" as acting chief engineer.

Song Kim, the former chief engineer, resigned in October 2018.

Camacho said an applicant has already been selected and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

However, they learned shortly during negotiations that the applicant got two other offers from private companies that far exceed CUC's ability to challenge those offers. Camacho said the salary being offered by two companies is three to four times more than even the maximum salary that CUC can offer for the position of chief engineer.

With respect to the water and wastewater division manager position, Camacho said they have completed interviews of the selected candidates.

Camacho said they are hoping to get some commitment as they already gone past the deadline to fill that position.

"However, we are very

proactive even before the deadline. As soon as we received the resignation [of the previous managerl, we advertised," he said.

Camacho said they have been in communication with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the matter.

He said there are about 20 applicants for the position. Gilmore said that EPA vetted all 20 applicants.

Gilmore said they keep EPA informed about the hiring efforts. "We talk every two weeks. We send letters every week. I communicate every other week," he said.

Gilmore said they making sure that they demonstrate earnest interest in trying to fill the position. "It's an ongoing effort," he added.

Former water and waste-

water division manager Gary Byrd resigned in November 2018, reportedly to accept an off-island job.

U.S. Department of Justice Enforcement Section senior attorney Bradley R. O'Brien earlier stated that CUC historically sustained lengthy vacancies in management positions, thereby impending CUC's operations and compliance with the federal court's stipulated orders.

Stipulated order 1 refers to federal court-mandated projects that focus on drinking water and wastewater and the restructuring of CUC's organization.

Stipulated order 2 focuses on oil issues and also applies to oil spills and the remediation of the contaminated power plants.

From Page 1

es she sustained in the attack.

en is about 14.

In the DPS press release, it said that DPS received a call at about 3:43pm last Sunday, reporting a distur-

Ex-DYS social worker still seeking lawyer to represent her

A former social worker in the Child Protection Unit of the Division of Youth Services is still looking for a lawyer who will represent her in the sexual harassment lawsuit she filed against her then-supervisor in federal court last February.

At a status conference last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered the complainant to submit a summary report of all attorneys she contacted.

Manglona said the report

Veteran care no longer limited to VA healthcare providers

A recently signed law now allows all veterans to seek treatment for their ailments with non-U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs authorized healthcare providers.

In an interview with CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs executive director Stanley Iakopo, he said the VA Mission Act of 2018 that was recently signed by President Donald Trump now allows veterans to seek care from any federally qualified healthcare provider and are no longer limited to VA healthcare providers.

"This VA Mission Act covers everything about veterans in terms of healthcare. Before, you could only see a doctor that is a certified health care provider for the military. With this law, just signed, it is saying 'why wait in line when you can just go to another doctor who is not a Department of Defense health provider.' They can just go to any doctor," he said.

applicable to veterans who are already eligible for health care

section of the Act would help veterans by eliminating the need to wait hours in line to

should include the names of the lawyers, date of contact, and results.

The complainant was ordered to reach out to three to five attorneys between that hearing until the next scheduled hearing.

Saipan Tribune opted for the meantime to withhold the complainant's name. She appeared telephonically at the hearing since she is currently in the U.S. mainland.

Manglona denied without prejudice the complainant's re-

be seen by a physician for a checkup or to refill their pre-

scriptions. Iakopo said this is great news for local veterans because the CNMI currently has only two VA healthcare providers.

"It's only hurting our veterans," he said.

Although the Act has already been implemented, the Commonwealth Health Center has yet to comply with the new law.

"I want to expand this to the hospital. I will be meeting with CHC to make sure they

quest to appoint a lawyer for her.

Denial without prejudice means the court may grant the complainant's request for a courtappointed counsel in the future.

Manglona set another status conference for July 17, 2019,

The complainant is left with no counsel after her first lawyer, Joseph E. Horey, withdrew last March.

Horey agreed with Manglona that the complaint was not served yet on defendant Julian R. Camacho and co-defendants.

Aside from plaintiff's thensupervisor Camacho, she named as co-defendants the CNMI government, and the

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' DYS.

The plaintiff is suing Camacho for violation of her civil rights, and the CNMI government and DCCA DYS for unlawful employment practices and violation of her civil rights.

She is demanding damages, court costs, and attorney's fees in unspecified amount.

According to the complaint,

plaintiff was employed by the Commonwealth as a social worker in the Child Protection Unit of DYS from December 2012 to May 2014.

Camacho allegedly repeatedly over the course of several months subjected the alleged victim to verbal and physical conduct of a sexual nature, including making sexual advances on her. (Ferdie de la Torre)

experienced intermittent and scheduled water hours.

'Water service is dependent on the volume of water produced at the well sites," he said.

As of Jan. 16, 2019, the Saipan water system was back to serving 24-hour water service to customers on the island. (Ferdie de la Torre)

CUC's water loss improves to 61 pct.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Saipan's non-revenue water—unaccounted and wasted water—went down to 61.38 percent last April from a high of 77 percent last December.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho disclosed that the increase in nonrevenue water for the month of December was due to the loss of water sales during the Super Typhoon Yutu restoration efforts.

Before Yutu's devastation last Oct. 24 and 25, CUC's

Amazing Summer, Amazing iPhones

Get up to 30% OFF select iPhones when you sign up for unlimited 4G LTE data on

the Freedom Plan. Enjoy a \$50 credit on your account when you switch over!

non-revenue water was at 50 percent, then it jumped to over 60 percent last November, and 77 percent last December.

Last March, the non-revenue water was at 62 percent.

Camacho said water sales decreased during Yutu's restoration efforts as many customers in the tank service areas





Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 19-013

Opening Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 Closing Date: Until filled

Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM") (Re-announcement)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking a qualified Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM"). CUC is a public utility corporation, operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear agua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing. international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:

Reporting directly to CUC's Deputy Executive Director or designee, the "DM" fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051

- The incumbent of this position is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Executive Director (which may also be known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater)
- Manages and oversees the CUC Drinking Water and Wastewater Division.
- Supervises employees in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- · Responsible for the effective and efficient utilization of equipment, materials, and personnel to complete water and wastewater maintenance programs in a timely and cost effective manner.
- Manages, leads, motivates, and develops staff towards attaining needed training, skills, and certifications.
- Plays significant role in the management of drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; user fee system development.
- · Prepares and maintains various records and reports for the division, including: purchase orders and invoices, monthly status reports, maintenance records, budget status, etc.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- An equivalent to a four year college degree or other field related to work with large-scale utilities and may substitute for one year of the required experience:
- Five years of proven, specialized experience as a manager in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- · Skills: Proven manager with communication skills dealing with the public, operations staff and senior management; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff.
- Experience: Experience with managing drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge: Thorough knowledge of the operating principles and maintenance requirements of at least three (3) million gallons per day ("mgd") of an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant including primary and secondary treatment processes, oxygen production, and sludge digestion and dewatering.
- Preferred Requirements.
- o Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Public Administration, or a degree related to the position.
- Current (unexpired) level 3 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in water treatment, and water distribution.
- o Current (unexpired) level 2 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in wastewater treatment, and wastewater distribution

LOCATION:

SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION:

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POSITION:

CONTRACT:

Two-year; subject to renewal.

If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$5,000,00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the

United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*: Human Resource Office Commonwealth Utilities Corporation P. O. Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

- 2 Fax: 670-235-5131
- 3. Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org

You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

US, NMI flags lowered to half-staff

lowered to half-staff from June 2 to June 4 as a mark of solemn respect for the victims of the tragic shooting at the Virginia Beach Municipal Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gave the directive to lower all CNMI flags to half-staff on June 2, soon after President Donald J. Trump ordered that the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff

All CNMI and U.S. flags were at all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the federal government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its territories and possessions until sunset, June 4, 2019.

Commonwealth flags will be flown at half-staff for the same period of time.

"We join the nation in mourning the loss of the 12 victims, most of whom were public servants dutifully serving the city of Virginia Beach. We extend our thoughts and prayers to the wounded victims. We join the national call for all Americans to unite in prayer for the victims and their families and friends. May our country come together to prevent tragedies like this from happening again," said Torres' proclamation. (Saipan Tribune)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Graduation day reminders

Graduation day reminders to the Kagman High School parents & graduating Class of 2019:

Graduation practice is from 9am to 11am at the following locations:

- June 5: KHS Café
- June 6: American Memorial Park
- June 7: American Memorial Park
- June 10: American Memorial Park
- June 11: Awards ceremony, Kagman Elementary School cafeteria, 4pm
- June 12: Graduation Day, American Memorial Park, 4:30 pm. Seniors, arrive by 3:30pm. All seniors will gather in the airconditioned theater in the main AMP Museum. The graduation is a formal ceremony, so all graduates must practice capand-gown etiquette during the ceremony. (PR)

Military training in open ocean, at Dandan, Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct openocean training until June 5, from 8am to 8am, within a 10-nautical mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 28'N/144° 25'E.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct open-ocean training today, June 4, from 8am to 4pm, within a 10-nautical mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 27.5'N/144° 21.5'E.

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct training until June 6, from 11am to 11:55pm, at the Dandan-Maloiloj training site in Inarajan.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the trainings. The public should be advised that routine helicopter training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur during training.

The U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

n June 6, from 8am to 9pm n June 4, 5, and 7, from 10:30am to 9pm

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be within a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. (PR)

Time management training set

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions will be hosting a training on time management at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room (Marianas Business Plaza, third floor, Suite 315) on June 26, from 9am to 12pm. Registration fee is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. Reservations and advance payment are required as seating is limited. To register, call 670-234-7150 or email coordinator2@ saipanchamber.com. (PR)

Weightlifting competition on June 15

The 2019 CNMI Weightlifting Championship will be held on June 15, 2019, a Saturday, at the Roundhouse, Garapan Central Park, starting at 10am.

Registration deadline is noon of June 8, 2019. Entry fee is \$10, while the admission fee is \$5.

There will also be a competitors' meeting at noon, Saturday, June 8, 2019, at the NMPASI conference room in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

For more information, contact John Davis at 789-9211, Greg Borja at 787-6642, or Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807. **(PR)**

SSHS registration for ongoing students

Saipan Southern High School is now accepting registration forms for ongoing students for SY 2019-2020. Deadline for submission will be on Aug. 21, 2019. All ongoing students must re-register to be enrolled at SSHS. If you have any other questions email Victoria Apatang at victoria.apatang@ cnmipss.org. (PR)

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-5600 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Procurement and Installation of a Rotating Beacon Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Project No. CPA-SA-006-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to remove and dispose of existing rotating beacon and procure and install a brand-rotating beacon, climbing device, basket, etc. at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, installation and testing of the new beacon with a 1-year warranty and an additional 1-year preventive maintenance services.

Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. Proposal submission requirements and contract details are outlined in the SOW.

A site inspection will be conducted on <u>Monday, June 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.</u> in order to assess the condition and area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Prospective proposers can meet the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at the

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than 5:00p.m., MONDAY, JÚLY 8, 2019.

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals must be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO CPA Executive Director

Date: May 21, 2019

Declassified WWII photos now on exhibit

For the first time in 75 years, the public is invited to view a historic multimedia exhibit showcasing the Marianas peoples in the summer of 1944 during the Battles of Saipan

After the war, many of the World War II images from the U.S. military were filed away as classified, never to be seen by the public eye.

Now the Northern Marianas Humanities Council invites to public to attend the 75th Anniversaries of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian Multimedia Exhibit from June 12 to July

14 at the NMI Museum of History and Culture and at the American Memorial Park.

The 30 photographs will be displayed at the NMI Museum and the films, a combination of the original footage as well as Witnesses to War, will be shown at the American Memorial Park. At a later date. the exhibit will travel to Tinian and Rota.

This stunning and heartwrenching exhibit that commemorates the resilience of the Marianas people tells an almost complete story of what the elders had to endure during the summer of 1944 through the photos and footage and then retelling it in 1996 in the documentary Witnesses to War. The exhibit tells of the Marianas people's experiences and their ability to endure unfathomable hardships and

faith and family alive.

The images were taken by the U.S. Marine Corps and Army Signal Corps camera operators who were ordered to take photographs and footage during the Battles of Saipan and Tinian. The images were created by the Department of the Navy and Department of the Army and were classified or restricted for decades until they became publicly available in the National Archive Research Administration in College Park Maryland. The NARA is the institution responsible for keeping and preserving federal government records, including images produced by federal military departments. (PR)

HSEM hosts first CERT training since Yutu

The Community Emergency Response Team of the CNMI Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, under the HSEM Division of Training & Exercise, hosted a citizen responder certification training last Wednesday and Thursday, followed by a First Aid & CPR training on Friday, May 24.

This training marked the first instructional session for the Office of HSEM since Super Typhoon Yutu devastated the islands in October.

This session's participants included staff and management of the Kensington Hotel and employees of the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation program under the Office of the Governor.

After a two-day in-class instructional period and response simulation, participants went through training for First Aid & CPR administered by Priority Care.

Upon completion, participants were awarded their certification cards, training certificates and individual backpacks equipped for basic response, including a basic First Aid kit, safety vest and hard hat.

HSEM thanks Antonio S. Kapileo and ASK Consulting/ Training, Elaine C. Dela Cruz with Karidat, the staff and management of Priority Care, and the management of Kensington Hotel for their partnership and participation in enhancing first responder skills within the community.

The CERT program was designed as a grassroots initiative and was specifically structured so that local program managers would have flexibility to form programs in a way that best suits the CNMI community. The program's curriculum covers basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

CERT volunteers are trained to respond safely, responsibly and effectively to emergency situations, but are also trained to have support capabilities in our community during nonemergency events. This provides assistance to actual first responders by being "the help before help arrives" while allowing the professional responders to complete more complex tasks while the certified CERT citizen tends to the less injured. Through CERT, capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters are built and enhanced. Since the program's inception, more than 500 citizens have been trained under HSEM. CERT is a free program that also offers First Aid & CPR training for participants.

If you and/or your organization are interested in participating in the CNMI CERT

program, contact CERT program manager Patrick M. Cepeda at (670) 287-8452 or via email at patrick.cepeda@ cnmihsem.gov.mp. For the latest training infor-

mation, visit the CNMI EOC State Warning Point Facebook: https://www.facebook. com/cnmieocswp/.

HSEM also encourages residents to download HSEM's ReadyCNMI App available for free in the Apple Store or Google PlayStore to receive the latest weather updates and notifications directly to your

mobile phone. (PR) overcome them to keep love,



GLEN PEREZ @ 234-5911

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2017 Toyota Corolla LE



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Staff and management of the Kensington Hotel and employees of the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation program under the Office of the Governor pose after their training.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Staff and management of the Kensington Hotel and employees of the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation program under the Office of the Governor go through training for First Aid & CPR.



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HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.

MCS valedictorian wants to pursue chemical engineering

REPORTER

Ultimately, Jan Emmanual Bobadilla wants to become a chemical engineer. For now, he is looking at taking up either liberal arts or nursing at the Northern Marianas College.

Bobadilla, who graduated from Mount Carmel School as valedictorian last June 1, 2019, dreams of pursuing a chemical engineering degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"I'm really happy I [graduated] valedictorian," he said.

"...We are the class that don't really care about grades but when stuff like this happens we get really excited and support each other."

Bobadilla he will be starting his college track at NMC. "I think it's a good decision to start here [and] save a lot of money especially since I can't really afford a big college," he said.

"Like [MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero] said, I really do believe that this is the best graduating Class of 2019 and I think they should continue to pursue their dreams.



JAN EMMANUAL **BOBADILLA** Valedictorian



HYO LIM CHO Salutatorian

best," he said of his classmates.

Hyo Lim Cho, the MCS Class of 2019 salutatorian, would be heading to the University of Utah to take up pre-nursing this August.

"My plan is to become a physician assistant and I am thinking

I wish them all the of coming back to Saipan and ger mom' who forces her working at the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.," she said.

Cho acknowledged that she was shy and quiet when she started at MCS. "...Senior year, we really bonded together and we all cried for each other [during] graduation and we are all happy for each other," she said.

She said she owes her academic success to her 'tito study. "I really thank her now because...I became the salutatorian of the class. I am really happy that I graduated with my fellow AlumKnights [MCS alumni] and I am really thankful for everything," Hyo said.

A total of 51 graduated from the 2019 Class of MHS last Saturday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Susupe.





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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com •
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp



NOTICE OF BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that Board Committees on Airport Facilities, Financial Affairs, Seaport Facilities and Personnel Affairs will be holding special meetings on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, beginning 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located in the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan.

AGENDAS

AIRPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

- Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (May 09, 2019)
- **Public Comments**
 - **Old Business:**
 - Solar Updates **CPA Business Resource Guide**
- RFP Concession Status
- Disability requirement for airlines New Business:
- - Airport Inspections
 - **Updated Airport Facilities Committee Report**
- **Executive Session (if needed)**
- Miscellaneous/Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

- Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda
- **Public Comments**
- Old Business:
 - 1. Micronesian Air Express Accounts Receivables
- **New Business:**
 - 1. Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Financial Status
- **Updated Financial Affairs Committee Report**
- **Executive Session (if needed)** Miscellaneous/Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

SEAPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

- Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (May 09, 2019)
- **Public Comments**
- **Old Business:**
 - GPPC. Inc. Lease Delta Dock
- **New Business:**
- Committee Report
- **Executive Session (if needed)**
- Miscellaneous/Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

- Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (May 09, 2019)
- Public Comments Old Business:
 - ARFF Fitness Training Policy
 - Calendar of events
 - Travel policy Per Diem calculations Organizational chart
- New Business:
 - 1. Committee Report Training Agreement
- Executive Session (if needed)
- Miscellaneous/Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit may be imposed for oral testimony.



Mt. Carmel School's Class of 2019 perform their graduation song.

ERWIN ENCINARES

IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

Never worked at a company before? Here's your chance to gain experience! The IT&E Summer Work Program will give up to ten (10) students who may never have held a paying job before, a unique opportunity to gain insight and knowledge about the telecommunications industry. Students learn about the operations of the Company and how they can be a part of it by observation, interaction with employees, and hands-on training.

REQUIREMENTS:

- At least 16 years old at the time of application submission
- Most recent official school transcript with an overall minimum 3.5 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- Legally authorized to work in the CNMI
- · Computer experience using Microsoft Applications
- Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with the other required documents as noted, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than June 14, 2019.

All inquiries must be made by the student, not the parent. The student may call 234-6600.

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability or genetic information We are also a Drug Free Workplace.



Tinian fundraiser kicks off with \$27K worth of donations

The "Rebuilding Tinian Together" fundraising drive that the Tan Siu Lin Foundation launched last weekend was immediately boosted by several donations amounting to a total of \$27,546.

The donations were handed over to Friends of San Jose Church officials Kimberly King-Hinds and Richard Lazaro and San Jose Parish Priest Fr. Rey Rosal last Friday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan during the birthday celebration of TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan.

The money will be used to rebuild the San Jose Social Hall, which will serve as a temporary place of worship for the parish and venue for other community events on Tinian, while the church that was damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu is being demolished and rebuilt.

"The Friends of San Jose Church and the people of Tinian are deeply grateful to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and the Tan family, and all those coming to our aid. For Jerry to make our cause the focus

of what should be a celebratory and personal day for him is a testament to the type of person he is-very giving," said King-Hinds. overwhelmed with the support we received tonight. We were so touched with how many people pitched in and show their generosity to the people of Tinia."

Lazaro said the donations were unexpected. "We thought we're just here to celebrate with Jerry on his birthday. It's his birthday, but it seemed it's our birthday or it's Christmas Day already because of all the 'gifts' we received from all of you," he said.

Last Friday, Tan received a gift from TanHoldings executives and his friends and he then donated the \$2,908 cash gift to the Friends of San Jose Church, adding \$8,888 of his personal money to the kitty. He also announced that George Chiu of Guam has donated \$2,000 to the cause, while his daughter, Tania, gave the Tinian fundraiser \$10,000—the biggest donation from an individual from Saipan so far.

Russian national's request to amend suit OK'd

By MARC VENUS

REPORTER

A federal judge in the CNMI has allowed a Russian national to amend his lawsuit against the Federal Emergency Management Agency, saying the original lawsuit was not concise nor direct.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Thursday Milan F. Fargo's request that he be allowed to amend his lawsuit.

Manglona noted that the current form of Fargo's complaint against FEMA is neither simple or concise.

Fargo was given 14 days to file the amended complaint or his case will be dismissed with prejudice. That means

Fargo will no longer be able to re-file the case.

In the original complaint he filed without a lawyer last Feb. 26, Fargo sued FEMA after it found him ineligible for some or all of the FEMA funds provided to him after Super Typhoon Soudelor in 2015 and demanding that he repay the money.

He claims that he only learned about this almost a year later when he got a debt collection notice for \$4,217.

Last April 23, Manglona dismissed the complaint, saying that Fargo failed to exhaust all his administrative remedies. Fargo was, however, allowed to amend his lawsuit to add more facts. On May 3, Fargo responded to the court's decision in the form of an email with 12 attachments.

Pride Crosswalk is PCF's service project

The 6th cohort of the Pacific Century Fellows seeks to resthis year.

The Pride Crosswalk was started in 2016 by the nonprofit group Pride Marianas, led by advocate Frankie Eliptico. It was the first year that the CNMI government officially recognized Pride through a proclamation signing dedicating the week of June 24-30 as CNMI Pride Week.

The original locations proposed for this project were at crosswalks located either by the Bank of Guam and the Garapan basketball court or

between the T Galleria and Joeten Garapan. However, urrect the Pride Crosswalk in because of the rules guiding Garapan as its service project federal highways, the project was moved into the inner streets of Garapan.

> The final locations have been chosen on Coral Tree Ave intersecting between Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and the Paseo, crossing again at Coffee Tree Mall, connecting the Paseo in the heart of Garapan.

The Pride Crosswalk ribbon cutting and proclamation signing will take place on Friday, June 21, 2019, at the intersection of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and the Paseo on Coral Tree Avenue at 4pm. (PR)



The Tan family—Jerry, right, Tania, second right, and Lydia, third right—presents the ceremonial check to Friends of San Jose Church chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds, third left, vice chair Richard Lazaro, left, and San Jose Parish Priest Father Rey Rosal during the launching of the "Rebuilding Tinian Together" fundraising drive last Friday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

"This birthday celebration is made more special by the people who stepped in to help the people of Tinian. I am especially proud to have my daughter with us tonight to personally show her support to the Friends of San Jose Church and donate \$10,000, which came from her graduation gifts," the TanHoldings CEO said. Tania graduated as valedictorian at Saipan International School.

Tan advocated for the community to support the "Rebuilding Tinian Together" fundraiser, which is similar to the Project Ayuda that the TSL Foundation, the charitable arm of TanHoldings Corp., launched after Saipan was hit by Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. The foundation will donate T-shirts bearing the "Rebuilding Tinian Together" logo and sell them, with 100 percent of the sales to be donated to the Friends of San Jose Church. Each shirt costs \$15 and the foundation initially targets to raise \$15,000 from the project. Last Friday, Tan's siblings already bought \$3,750 worth of shirts and the sales were also handed over to the Friends of

San Jose Church.

"With this 'Rebuilding Tinian Together' fundraising drive, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation hopes to inspire others to give and help the island continue its recovery from Super Typhoon Soudelor," TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino said.

King-Hinds said that, with the latest donation they received and the \$100,000 that the TSL Foundation earlier gave them, they are on their way to signing a contract to start the rebuilding of the San Jose Social Hall. The project would cost between

\$300,000 and \$500, 000, while the construction of the new and concrete church has been estimated at \$1.7 million.

"Next week, we will be sitting down to finalize plans, look into the layout of the social hall. Our goal is to have a finished structure by December. It's an aggressive goal, but with the typhoon season coming up and the poor condition of the church's structure, we need to work on the project as soon as possible and we thank all the people who are helping us do that," King-Hinds said. (PR)

The Shack Saipan earns 2019 TripAdvisor certificate of excellence

The Shack Saipan, a local island bistro, has once again received a TripAdvisor certificate of excellence.

Now on its sixth year, the achievement celebrates businesses that earned great reviews on TripAdvisor over the past year. Recipients include restaurants, accommodations and attractions all over the world.

"We are so proud to be recognized for the fifth straight year with this award," said The Shack coowner Glen Hunter. "This award is so unique in that it is truly customer-driven and a reflection of our incredible team. We love our customers and we are so glad they are able to share 'Shacksperiences' their



The Shack Saipan is a beach side cafe in San Jose/Oleai. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

with the world."

Neela Pal, TripAdvisor's vice president, said the certificate of excellence, allows TripAdvisor to publicly recognize businesses that are actively taking into account customer feedback to help travelers experience the most highly reviewed places to eat, stay, and explore.

The certificate of excellence accounts for the quality, quantity and recency of reviews submitted by travelers on TripAdvisor over a 12-month period. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

The Shack Saipan is a beach side cafe in San Jose/ Oleai. Opened in 2013 The Shack Saipan specializes in local dishes, vegetarian items, savory and sweet crepes, homestyle meals, whole fruit smoothies, espresso drinks, and more. Open Monday through Saturday from 8am to 2pm. (PR)

10 TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Heads up, baseball! Fans deserve more protection from foul balls

ubs hitter Albert Almora Jr. was in anguish Wednesday night in Houston after his line-drive foul ball struck a young girl. He knew immediately after making contact that he'd sent a dangerous projectile into the stands. "I want to put a net around the whole stadium," he said.

That's an idea Major League baseball should consider. Foul balls are part of the game, and part of the fun. But only when a hitter's mistimed swing delivers a lazy pop fly in your direction and—I got it, I got it—you make a heroic barehanded grab.

Line drives are something else. Major league foul balls can come off the bat at speeds that exceed 100 mph. Bats go flying, too.

A Bloomberg News report in 2014 found that 1,750 major league fans are hurt by foul balls each season. In 2017 a toddler sitting with her grandparents at Yankee Stadium was struck in the face by a 105 mph foul that broke her nose and orbital bones and caused bleeding in her brain. Last year, a 79-year-old woman at Dodger Stadium was hit in the head and died several days later.

Baseball stadiums rely on protective netting to keep fans safe, but only seats behind home plate or just up the line are included. In response to serious incidents, MLB last year extended the coverage area to the far ends of dugouts at minimum. That isn't good enough. The girl at the Houston Astros game was sitting in the area just beyond the visitors dugout. The woman in California was hit by a ball that cleared the top of the netting.

Attending a game has become more dangerous because pitchers throw harder and hitters are stronger. Stadiums, meanwhile, are seating fans closer to the action. Most fans don't have the reaction time of a pro athlete. And, it should be noticed, fans may not even be paying attention to the game. They're eating hot dogs, filling out their score cards or looking at their phones.

Team owners face competing pressures: Of course they have an obligation and a desire to keep attendees safe. But fans who pay a lot of money for prime seats don't want an obstructed view, or lost opportunities to catch a ball. The most passionate advocates for more extensive netting may be the players, who understand the damage a baseball can do. Almora was devastated by the scene of the girl being rushed up the aisles.

The solution to this problem, as with many things pertaining to baseball, involves physics and probabilities. It's clear too many screaming liners are hurting people. Whether protective netting needs to be extended another 20 feet, or all the way to the foul poles, to protect more fans, can be calculated. The nets may have be raised a few feet as well.

Baseball's a great game. It should be safe to attend. MLB and team owners should do more to protect their fans from injury—and protect their players from distress.

(c)2019 Chicago Tribune



Political lies dishonor patriotic occasions

fter Memorial Day comes D-Day and the 4th of July. Through speeches, parades, cemetery ceremonies—and even our choice of clothing—we declare our common American heritage, our values and our willingness to make sacrifices for the sake of liberty.

Increasingly evident, however, is the tendency to separate the "Give me liberty or give me death" spirit of Patrick Henry from quotidian actions we take—or tolerate—that seem anathema to the sort of robust democracy for which so many have given their lives.

Consider the annual Memorial Day Concert held on the west lawn of the Capitol. It can sometimes verge on mawkish reverence and deliberate manipulation of our emotions with tearjerker stories of men and women who gave their all in battle. With civilian and military performers offering fanfares, hymns and pop tunes emphasizing "God Bless America" in one form or another, we remember the dead, and we honor the wounded warriors who return home to an insensitive, quick-to-forget general populace.

Gen. Colin Powell, the former secretary of state, asserted that the concert "has become our national moment to grieve, to remember and to honor the nearly 1.5 million Americans in our history who sacrificed everything for our country and its freedoms." In his eyes we are "one American family forever woven together in strength and unity by their service and their sacrifice."

Perhaps for a moment or two a lot of us were that on Monday. For too many of us, however, Memorial Day is about barbecues and bargains and maybe baseball games. Then it's back to a normal that now tolerates abominations like the fake Nancy Pelosi video circulated on social media—and gleefully shared by the president and his allies. The deliberately altered video purported to show the speaker of the House as incapacitated and perhaps inebriated. "PELOSI STAMMERS THROUGH NEWS CONFERENCE," the president tweeted last week.

Are we losing our minds when this becomes just another kooky thing? How does this square with honoring those who have fought and died for our country's ideals?

Earlier this month photos of 34 black women cadets preparing to graduate from West Point went viral. The novelty of seeing so many women warriors probably intrigued some; a sense of "we have arrived" struck women, racial minorities and allies in the struggle. But when a friend's three-word reaction to the story was, "This is good," I felt the need to take issue. "It's definitely significant; but 'good' is a matter of perspective," I said. "I wish

By E.R. SHIPP The Baltimore Sun

E.R. Shipp, a Pulitzer Prize winner for commentary, is the journalist in residence at Morgan State University's School of Global Journalism and Communication.



we didn't have to 'study war no more.""

On Sunday, Vice President Mike Pence, a former radio talk show host, told graduating West Point cadets to expect to see action in Afghanistan and Iraq and painted a picture of the world as "a dangerous place." On Monday, General Powell, the former combat soldier, said: "We offer a fervent prayer that future generations will not have to endure the devastation of war." It's too bad presidents, vice presidents and cabinet members don't have to actually leave their comfortable offices to lead troops into battle the way medieval kings did.

We must not cavalierly play chicken in the diplomatic arena as our current president seems willing to do with his bombastic Twitter tirades. "If Iran wants to fight, that will be the official end of Iran. Never threaten the United States again!" the president tweeted earlier this month.

His saber-rattling doesn't extend to North Korea, whose leader he apparently trusts, even though his own intelligence experts and U.S. allies like Japan don't. "North Korea fired off some small weapons, which disturbed some of my people, and others, but not me," the president tweeted over the weekend.

The president, who had made more than 10,000 false or misleading claims by the end of April, according to the Washington Post's count, wants the American people to trust him.

Our president thrives on big rallies where he can utter big lies to adoring and uncritical crowds, and he still wants a \$100 million military parade to give us a show of American might. He's taking his cues from the kind of tyrants our troops have toppled.

So wave the flags. Strut around in red-white-and-blue. But know this: Ignoring the mistruths and the dearth of honor emanating from the political sphere makes all the rhetoric ring hollow on official patriotic occasions. It sullies the legacy of those who have served and have died so that we might enjoy our barbecues and bargains and ball games.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immedi-

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1031 Exchanges: Never pay capital-gains tax again—maybe

aying taxes is not fun. For many people, it's their biggest expense year in and year out. But maybe it doesn't have to be. How so?

By taking advantage of Section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Tax Code. This section allows you to exchange one investment property for another without paying capital gains from selling the original investment property. The trick is that you must invest your capital gains into the next property.

Let's look at an example. Assume that you bought a property for \$150,000 10 years ago. And now you sell it for \$200,000. Congratulations. You earned a tidy profit of \$50,000 minus the government's cut, which is better known as capital-gains tax.

Now let's play out the same scenario using a 1031 exchange. Again, you bought the property for \$150,000 and sold it for \$200,000. But rather than cashing out, you buy a new property for \$205,000. You still earned a tidy profit but now you didn't pay any capital-gains tax. Instead, you invested your profits plus what you would have paid in capital-gains tax for a new, more valuable property.

At this point, careful readers are probably wondering: Does the capital gain disappear when you buy a new property? No. It sticks around but is deferred until you cash out in the future.

The power of this strategy is that you can use money you would have paid to the government to buy a bigger, better property. Over time, this advantage can really add up.

So far, so good. Now for some of the fine print.

First, Section 1031 only applies to properties owned as an investment or for use in your trade and business. Easy enough. Basically, any property held as an investment or to generate income qualifies, including raw land, residential property, commercial property, and more.

Second, the property you buy (known as the "replacement land") must be of "like kind" with the property that you sold. This requirement sounds tighter than it is. In reality, it's not saying that if you sell raw land, you must buy more raw land. You don't. What it's actually saying is that you need to have the same intent for the replacement property as you had for the original

Put differently: What matters is your intent, not the physical similarity of the original property and the replacement property. So, you can sell raw land and buy an apartment building. Or you can exchange an apartment building for several houses. And so on—as long as you have the same purpose for both the original property and the replacement one.

But be careful, there are a few exceptions. Section 1031 does not apply to properties that you fix and flip or land held for subdivision and sale. It also does not apply to primary or secondary residences (though there is a straightforward way to circumvent the restriction on primary/secondary residences).

Third, the old property and the replacement property must be in the same name. In other words, if you owned the old property in your name, then you must own the replacement property in your name. If, by contrast, you owned the old property through an LLC or a land trust, then your LLC or land trust must own the replacement property.

Not to worry though: Later if you want to shift the property title from, say, yourself to a land trust or LLC, you can. How long should you wait? The common wisdom is to wait one year before transferring ownership from yourself to your land trust or LLC.

This titling issue also causes headaches the other way around. Some real-estate investors own property in a land trust or LLC. If they want to sell that property and then use the sales proceeds plus a bank loan to acquire a bigger property, trouble can crop up.

The issue is that the bank will normally want the replacement property in your personal name (because if you default, it's easier to collect from you than your trust or LLC). So, if the original property is titled under your trust (or LLC), but the bank wants the replacement property to be titled under your name, the 1031 exchange will violate requirement 3, and therefore fail.

Fortunately, there's an escape clause for this situation: Transfer the original property to yourself before putting the property up for sale. Then the original property will be in your name as

By JORDAN SUNDELL

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business and real-estate law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns-focused

mainly on real estate and small business-are published every other Tuesday. Contact Sundell at jsundell@jzgroupinc.com.

will the replacement property, thus making both the bank and Section 1031 happy.

Now let's turn to another common scenario: What happens if three people own a company that owns property? What if one person wants to cash out while the other two want to reinvest in a bigger, better property? All parties can get what they want provided that they prepare properly.

What will they need to do? Simple. The company should transfer the property to each partner as "tenants in common." From there, the partner who wants to cash out can sell their share of the property. Meanwhile the other two owners will exchange their piece of the property for a replacement property. This process is known as a "drop and swap."

If a 1031 exchange sounds interesting, it is. But do your homework. The process is littered with procedural traps and tricks that can wound and maim the uninitiated. The safest way to avoid these injuries is to work with an accountant and lawyer with experience doing 1031 exchanges.

This column is not intended to be taken as legal advice and is for informational purposes only. For specific cases, consult

Financial stability

Editor's Note: The following is the text of Gov. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero's monthly address for June.

have spent most of my adult life in three professions: as a nurse, I cared for the physical health and wellbeing of my patients; as a lawmaker, I authored bills that became laws to help improve the lives and wellbeing of our people; as a banker, it was my job to help clients on the road to financial stability. There are many things that separate these three professions, but I have learned that at the core of each is a shared goal—a shared responsibility. That responsibility becomes extremely important when dealing with unstable situations. The first thing we must do is to stabilize the situation. Then, we need to find the root cause and address it. Finally, we must develop a long-term plan and set goals to prevent but also prepare for any potential instability in the future. Since becoming governor, I understand now more than ever that my experiences are helping me restore our government and prepare us for a compassionate, fair, safe, and prosperous future.

Just before taking office in January, the Lieutenant Governor and I received a transition briefing on what we could expect of the government that we would soon lead. It was clear at that time, and even clearer after taking our oaths of office, that the responsibility of changing our island for the better required immediate action.

I learned from my experiences that to increase your chances of success, you need a proper plan. For our government, we needed to establish stability, make an assessment of what was setting us back and address it, and finally, have a long-term plan of realistic and achievable goals.

This is what Josh and I are working on. Among the many issues that need attention is strengthening our government's finances. It's a difficult task but we put together a competent and experienced fiscal discipline team to get the work done. And we will continue to work hard so we can reduce our deficit, resolve our debt, fix our hospital and our schools, build more parks, upgrade our technology, hire more public safety officers, build affordable homes, and pay our people what they are worth.

The Department of Revenue and Taxation is key to our financial strength. Under the leadership of director Dafne Shimizu, we are not just increasing collections, we are also aggressively pursuing delinquencies. Rev and Tax is working with the limited resources it has to be able to process tax refunds as quickly as possible. It may not be as fast as I would like, but we are processing and paying tax refunds at a similar pace to previous years and we are doing it with less resources.

One of the challenges we faced early on was the amount of prior year returns that had to be processed first. The volume of prior year returns to process was unusually high and, by law, we are required to square away prior year returns before 2018 refunds can begin. The good news is, we have caught up and are now releasing 2018 refunds as quickly as possible.

At our Guam Police Department, Chief Ignacio has restructured some areas of GPD's operations. The result—more patrol officers on our streets and a reduction in overtime costs. This reform is also happening at the Department of Corrections and at Guam Customs and Quarantine, allowing us to open up more positions to hire more officers. We are bringing in more recruits now than ever before and we are preparing to hire even more. In fact, we encourage residents to apply. If you or someone you know has a law enforcement background or is interested in serving our community through public safety, please, encourage them to visit the Department of Administration and fill out an application.

Through responsible cash management, we were also able to fulfill a promise to return \$3.8 million dollars into the E-911

By LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero is the governor



account. These funds were transferred out and used inappropriately several years ago, preventing the Guam Fire Department from upgrading its obsolete 911 call system. With the money returned, GFD can now procure a new, modern, state-of-the-art 911 call center.

The path to recovery is never easy and I know that despite our painstaking efforts to stabilize cash flow and increase collections, the reality is that a natural disaster or some other threat can set us back when we least expect it—just like the stock market can crash after a national crisis or a patient in trouble can create an emergency situation.

This is why we must plan for the long term. We are not about making promises we cannot keep or politicizing issues that should be addressed with actions and not words. We are about taking these steps to stabilize, find the root cause, and plan for the long-term—so that we can save for emergencies or a rainy day instead of waiting for a crisis to happen and borrowing for the unexpected. We want to be able to invest in our people, especially our children. Because in the future, they will reap the benefits of a responsible government and continue the work to bring prosperity and safety to our island.

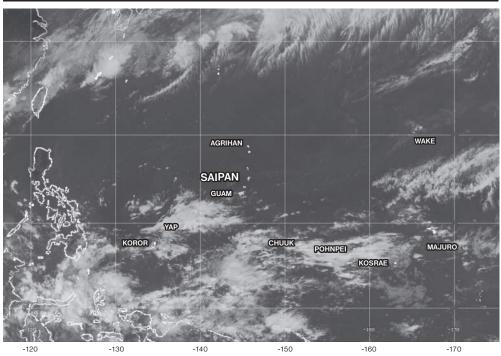
Si Yu'os Ma'ase and God bless Guam.

12 TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN WEDNESDAY THURSDAY **FRIDAY SATURDAY** Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to Partly cloudy with isolated Partly cloudy with isolated **79º** 79° 79° **79º** 79° 890 **89**°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:08 AM, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers within the Marianas waters, mainly south of Guam. The VAD wind profile indicates east-northeast winds of 16 to 22 knots through the lowest 6 thousand feet of the air. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet which are occasionally approaching 7 feet, composed mainly of east swell with a bit of east wind wave.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESI	A	▲ ▼°F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Yap	Yap Thunderstorms		
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°	

iviajuio	r artiy Cloudy	00 / 01
AROUND TH	E GLOBE	≜ ♥°F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	61° / 52°
Beijing	Cloudy	88° / 64°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Honolulu	Showers	85° / 74°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 54°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	73° / 61°
Manila	Thunderstorms	97° / 82°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	55° / 46°
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 79°
New York	Mostly Sunny	73° / 63°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	82° / 70°
Paris	Showers	77° / 59°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	81° / 64°
Rome	Sunny	79° / 57°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	94° / 70°
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 54°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	82° / 64°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	81° / 68°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	78° / 66°



through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

■*11 on any IT&E cellular phone

■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY							
2:17 AM	LOW TIDE	1.11					
7:16 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.95					
2:34 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.48					
9:35 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.00					

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:44 PM
Wednesday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Friday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	5:45 AM	6:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:17 AM	7:33 PM	-
Wednesday	7:12 AM	8:34 PM	-
Thursday	8:11 AM	9:32 PM	-
Friday	9:13 AM	10:29 PM	-
Saturday	10:14 AM	11:21 PM	-

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	FLIG	HT S	CHEDULE	AS O	F JUNE	E 2, 20	019
	DE	PARTU	RES		А	RRIVAL	.S
SAIPAN-	GUAM (GUM)		GUAM	(GUM)-SA	IPAN	
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
	·				·	·	
SAIPAN-	BUSAN ((PUS)		BUSAI	N (PUS)-SA	IPAN	
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 3, 5, 7	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-	SEOUL (ICN)		SEOUI	L (ICN)-SAI	PAN	
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307		12:35am+1	•
OZ626		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
		8:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	6, 7
SAIPAN-	SHANGH	IAI (PVG	i)	SHAN	GHAI (PVG))-SAIPAN	I
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-	HANGZH	łou (HG	H)	HANG	ZHOU (HGH	l)-SAIPA	N
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396		7:55pm	4	JD395		5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-	GUANGZ	ZHOU (C	AN)	GUAN	GZHOU (CA	N)-SAIP	AN
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-	BEIJING	(PEK)		BEIJIN	NG (PEK)-S	AIPAN	
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-	MANILA	(MNL)		MANII	LA (MNL)-S	AIPAN	
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/62	25 12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/62	25 12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/17	'4 9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/17	'4 10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/17	'4 11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-	HONG K	ONG (H	(G)	HONG	KONG (HK	G)-SAIP	AN
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/62	25 1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/62		1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721		11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076		00:30am+1	
UO43		8:25am	1	UO42		1:20am+1	7
UO43		8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42		4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159		9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/17		8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
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LEGEND: Da	vs. Monda	v (1) Tuesi	day (2) Wednesday (3)	Thursday	(4) Friday (5)	Saturday (6	and Sunday (7): 311

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT # 1301 1302 1303	TO ROTA DEPARTURE 7:30AM 11:30AM 4:00PM	ARRIVAL 8:00AM 12:00PM 4:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	1203 1204 1205 1206 1207 1208 1209	9:00AM 10:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM	9:15AM 10:15AM 11:15AM 12:15PM 1:15PM 2:15PM 3:15PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily
FLIGHT # 3101 3102 3103	DEPARTURE 8:15AM 1:45PM 4:45PM	ARRIVAL 8:45AM 2:15PM 5:15PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	1210 1211 1212	4:00PM 5:00PM 6:00PM	4:15PM 5:15PM 6:15PM	Daily Daily Daily
ROTA TO FLIGHT # 3401	DEPARTURE 12:15PM	ARRIVAL 12:45PM	FREQUENCY Daily	FLIGHT # 2102 2103 2104	DEPARTURE 7:30AM 8:30AM 9:30AM	ARRIVAL 7:45AM 8:45AM 9:45AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2105 2106	10:30AM 11:30AM	10:45AM 11:45AM	Daily Daily
FLIGHT # 4301	DEPARTURE 1:00PM	ARRIVAL 1:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2107 2108 2109	12:30PM 1:30PM 2:30PM	12:45PM 1:45PM 2:45PM	Daily Daily Daily
SAIPAN	TO TINIAN			2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT # 1201 1202	DEPARTURE 7:00AM 8:00AM	ARRIVAL 7:15AM 8:15AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily	2111 2112 2113	4:30PM 5:30PM 6:30PM	4:45PM 5:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily Daily

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 **13** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

Mexicans launch friendly defensive to deflect US tariffs

MEXICO CITY (AP)— Mexican officials have copied a page from President Donald Trump's playbook in recent days, taking to Twitter to communicate that they are working flat-out to de-escalate tensions over immigration and avoid punitive tariffs on all Mexican exports to

Announcements of meetings in Washington, selfies and carefully crafted messages of optimism for cool-headed discussions are some of the tactics on display in social media to respond to an economic and diplomatic emergency that few anticipated. Trump's threat on Thursday to impose tariffs to pressure Mexico to do more to curb the flow of migrants came the same day that Mexico declared it would begin the process of ratifying the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement on trade.

Many are questioning the legality of mixing immigration policy goals with trade retaliation, and U.S. business groups are already considering legal action against the

proposed tariff, arguing that the countries both produce for each other and together.

"Almost everyone caught flat-footed," Antonio Ortiz-Mena, an international trade consultant based in Washington with the Albright Stonebridge Group who represented Mexico as part of the team that negotiated the North American Free Trade Agreement in the early 1990s.

Ortiz-Mena said he spent much of the weekend on phone calls and crafting strategies to advise clients in the U.S.-Mexico supply chain on how to navigate the situation. His advice to Mexican officials would be to stay calm and show good faith by ratifying the USMCA trade deal.

"We're neighbors. We're not going anywhere," Ortiz-Mena said.

Mexico overtook Canada to become the top trade partner for the U.S. in April.

And Mexico's message has been consistently friendly. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Mexico won't panic, signing off on a

Thursday letter to Trump as 'your friend" and repeating that his country doesn't want this confrontation, much less a

There has also been some expert trolling. Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard posted a picture of himself at a Mexican airport Friday waiting to depart for Washington via Houston, with a Huaweibranded cellphone charging station behind him. The subtle implication: If the U.S. pushes Mexico away, China, a geopolitical and economic adversary, could move in to fill that space.

Mexican Economy Minister Graciela Marquez said she will meet with Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross in Washington on Monday. Ebrard said a delegation he is leading will hold talks Wednesday with one headed by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Ebrard said Mexican Agriculture Minister Victor Manuel Villalobos also is to meet with his U.S. counterpart, Sonny Perdue, as tariffs would "severely" affect the U.S. agricultural sector. The objective is for the U.S. to avoid "shooting itself in the foot," Ebrard said.

Mexico is the top export market for U.S. corn and pork, and Mexico supplies one out of three fresh fruits and vegetables consumed in the United States. Tariffs on Mexican agricultural exports are seen raising the cost of avocados, tomatoes and berries for U.S. consumers.

Over the weekend, Mexico's economy minister joined what Mexican Twitter users have dubbed the "Ebrard Selfie Challenge," posting pictures of herself smiling next to the U.S. commerce secretary at the inauguration of El Salvador President Navib Bukele.

The Mexican strategy of killing with kindness has been met with skepticism and increasingly harsh words from Trump.

"Mexico is sending a big delegation to talk about the Border," Trump tweeted Sunday. "Problem is, they've been 'talking' for 25 years. We want action, not talk."



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Boeing warns of potential wing problems in some 737 aircraft

Boeing is telling some airlines flying its 737 model to replace a part on the planes' wings, a move that could affect more than 100 aircraft. Boeing said on Sunday that it is working with federal regulators and contacted airlines about potential problems discovered in one batch of "slat tracks" produced by a supplier. The company said it has identified 21 planes most likely to have the parts in question, and it's advising airlines to check an additional 112 planes. The replacement work should take one to two days after the parts are in hand. That total does not include the 179 737 Max aircraft that could also have the parts in question. The 737 Max was grounded worldwide following two crashes involving the model. (AP)

Trump says top White House economist Kevin Hassett leaving

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump says the White House's top economist is leaving soon. In a tweet Sunday night, Trump says the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Kevin Hassett, will

be departing "shortly" and praises him as having "done such a great job for me and the Administration." Trump says he will name what he calls a "very talented replacement" as soon as he returns to the U.S. from his trip to Europe. The president adds: "I want to thank Kevin for all he has done - he is a true friend!" Hassett began serving in the Senate-confirmed post in September 2017.

YouTube, other services down due to eastern US congestion

NEW YORK (AP)— Google is saying users of YouTube and other services are seeing errors or slow performance due to high levels of network congestions in the eastern United States. YouTube, Google Cloud and G Suite services are affected, but Google said it believes it has identified the cause of the congestion and expects to return to normal service shortly. The company first identified the issue on its Google Cloud status dashboard at 3:25 p.m. Eastern time. The sound of millions of cat videos being suddenly silenced reverberated across the internet, and #YouTube-DOWN was a trending topic on Twitter.

Trump turbulence slows momentum for North America trade deal WASHINGTON (AP)—The momentum that supporters have tried to build for a new North American trade deal has run

into some Trump turbulence.

The Trump administration had taken steps in recent weeks to work with Democratic and Republican lawmakers to address concerns about the proposed United States-Mexico-Canada agreement.

Then President Donald Trump made his threat this past week of a 5% tariff on Mexican imports unless America's southern neighbor cracked down on Central American migrants trying to cross the U.S. border.

His recent decision to remove U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico had appeased mostly Republicans who were using their trade vote as leverage to do away with those penalties.

The administration also had committed to meeting with a group of House Democrats to allay their concerns. That

gesture created good will, and as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., described it, put Democrats "on a path to yes."

Now it's unclear where that path may lead.

Influential business groups fear that Trump's threat against Mexico could derail the proposed trade agreement.

'The last thing we want to do is put that landmark deal and the 2 million manufacturing jobs that depend on North American trade—in jeopar-' said Jay Timmons, president and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce said it was considering legal action to block the tariffs from going into effect.

Some GOP senators are rankled, too, most notably Charles Grassley of Iowa, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

"This is a misuse of presidential tariff authority and counter to congressional intent," Grassley said.

Congressional aides from both parties said that it's too soon to say whether Trump's proposal will derail the agreement. But it does make it harder for lawmakers to assess how the agreement would improve the economic landscape if the tariffs on Mexico go into place.

Democrats seem mostly concerned with other breaking developments.

Hours before Trump announced his tariff plan, his administration tried to set up the agreement for a possible congressional vote before the August recess. The administration completed the formal steps necessary to start the clock for submitting legislation to Congress.

Pelosi said that was "not a positive step" and "indicates a lack of knowledge on the part of the administration on the policy and process to pass a trade agreement."

Democrats want to strengthen enforcement of labor and environmental standards in Mexico. They have pushed for Mexico to change labor laws that have encouraged wages as low as \$1 or \$2 per hour at some plants, giving U.S. companies a strong incentive to move operations south of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Mexico lawmakers have approved a law that requires secret-ballot union votes and proof of workers' consent for contracts. Democrats in Washington want to ensure followthrough, and Pelosi still hold the final say in determining when, or if, the agreement comes up for a vote.

Pelosi also joined several Republican senators in slamming Trump's tariff threat, saying it is "not rooted in wise trade policy but has more to do with bad immigration policy on his part."

"Yet again, the president is sowing chaos over the border instead of delivering solutions for American workers and for American consumers," Pelosi said.

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Nation

Virginia Beach attacker notified boss of plans to leave job

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP)—The gunman who attacked his colleagues at a Virginia Beach government office building resigned by email hours before the shooting, a city official said Sunday as authorities sought a motive in the assault that killed 12 people.

Officials gave no indication why 40-year-old DeWayne Craddock had notified a superior of his intention to leave his job as a civil engineer in the utilities department. He was an employee "in good standing" and showed "satisfactory" job performance, City Manager Dave Hansen said.

Police Chief James Cervera described a chaotic scene as officers entered the building and pursued the assailant through a tightly packed warren of offices that the chief likened to a maze or a honeycomb. They exchanged fire in a protracted gunbattle. Cervera did not know how many rounds were fired but said it was "well into the double digits."

"In the police world, anything

more than three to five shots is a long gunbattle," he said.

At one point, the suspect fired at officers through a door and a wall and hit one officer, who was saved by a bulletproof vest. Then the firing stopped, and police realized the gunman was holed up in an office.

When they got into the office, they took the wounded shooter into custody and gave him first aid, Cervera said. He was taken from the scene by ambulance 36 minutes after officers arrived and died at a hospital. A medical examiner will determine whether he was killed by an officer's bullet or his own, the chief said.

There was no indication he targeted anyone specifically. Cervera said investigators are retracing the gunman's activities on the day of the attack, using his electronic keycard to track his movements through secure areas of the building. They are also reviewing his personal and professional lives trying to find a motive.

"Right now we do not have anything glaring," he said. "There's nothing that hits you right between the eyes. But we are working on it."

Craddock appeared to have had no felony record, making him eligible to purchase guns. Government investigators identified two .45-caliber pistols used in the attack, and all indicators were that he purchased them legally in 2016 and 2018, said Ashan Benedict, the regional special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The police chief said at least one had a noise suppressor.

City officials uttered the gun-

man's name just once and said they would not mention it again.

Officers found victims throughout the building, on three floors. Among the dead were four other engineers who worked to maintain streets and protect wetlands and three right-of-way agents who reviewed property lines. Others included an account clerk, a technician, an administrative assistant and a special projects coordinator. In all, they had served the city of Virginia Beach for more than 150 years.

The 12th fatality was a contractor who was in the building seeking a permit.



Oklahomans clean up after flood; Arkansans brace for crest

SAND SPRINGS, Okla. (AP)—Storm-weary residents in Oklahoma were gutting waterlogged homes Sunday as the Arkansas River continued its slow crest rolling hundreds of miles downstream, even as many kept a cautious eye on this week's weather forecasts showing more rain.

In the Tulsa suburb of Sand Springs—among the first communities inundated when the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers started releasing more water from a dam upriver to control more severe flooding elsewhere—soggy couches and recliners and dumpsters full of carpet, drywall and insulation lined residential streets covered in silt deposited by floodwaters.

Jamie Casto was helping clean up the house where her 65-year-old uncle has lived for 14 years.

Though Casto, 35, said her uncle didn't have flood insurance because he was told he lived in a 500-year floodplain, a rust-colored line 4 feet from

the concrete floor of the garage clearly marked how high water had gotten before they were able to get into the house Friday.

Casto is trying to help her uncle fill out paperwork to apply for emergency loans to help get the house back in order.

She gave Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke a tour of the home while he was in historically red Oklahoma to see damage firsthand. The former Texas congressman said that if he is elected, his plan would include federal grants to invest in communities before disasters strike because the planet is warming and fires, storms and floods are expected to get worse.

"We know there's going to be more of this—more severe, more devastating," O'Rourke said. "We need to invest in communities now."

Cleanup won't be fast or easy. The Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency put out a call for volunteers last week, with caveats that volunteers must bring their own gloves and boots. The Tulsa Health Department also gave free tetanus vaccinations to volunteers.

The National Weather Service said that in Tulsa, the river was at just over 13 feet (4 meters) Sunday morning, 10 feet (3 meters) lower than its high point on Wednesday.

On Saturday, President Donald Trump declared a major disaster in Oklahoma and made federal funding available to Muskogee, Tulsa and Wagoner counties, which have been hit by flooding, tornadoes and other storms. Across the state, officials said six people died and 118 were injured from the severe weather this spring.

As the high waters travel southeast, officials in Dardanelle, Arkansas, where a levee breached, said the risk of widespread flooding has abated, though communities further downstream aren't out of danger yet.

Dardanelle Mayor Jimmy

Witt said in a Facebook post Saturday night that he thought the city of about 4,700 people "will be ok" after the flow of water toward the community began to slow.

Witt had previously warned the city could be inundated after the river on Friday made a 40-foot (12-meter) hole in a levee in Dardanelle, which is roughly 100 miles (160 kilometers) upstream from Little Rock.

Officials said Saturday that they were constructing a temporary levee, calling it a "last ditch effort" to shore up the city's southern border and predicting that up to 800 homes could be affected by creeping floodwaters. The threat decreased hours later as the flow of water slowed.

By Sunday morning, Dardanelle appeared to be safe. Yell County Office of Emergency Management Director Jeff Gilkey said the river never reached the temporary levee. But Gilkey and Witt warned that more rain could reverse the city's fortunes.

ACROSS THE NATION Dad, stepmom charged in starvation death boy in Indiana

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP)—A man who carried his son's lifeless body into an Indiana hospital has been charged with murder after an autopsy found that the 12-year-old had been abused and starved to death. Luis Posso and the boy's stepmother, Dayan Flores, were charged with murder and other crimes Friday in Bloomington, a week after the death of Eduardo Posso. They formerly lived in Myakka City, Florida, and were in Indiana to promote a circus. The Herald-Times quotes Monroe County authorities as saying the boy was emaciated and had bruises on his body. Luis Posso told investigators that he had struck Eduardo multiple times with a belt and other objects, but he denied withholding food. Police say a video on the father's phone showed Eduardo in a motel bathtub with his hands and feet bound. Public defenders have been assigned to represent them.

Chicago police investigating 'unauthorized' video release

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago police are investigating after video was posted online showing the shooting death of a woman who was shielding her toddler from gunfire. Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi released a statement Sunday night calling the video's release "unauthorized." Guglielmi adds that police have notified the Cook County State's Attorney's Office about the video and that the department is working to determine how the video was accessed.

WBBM-TV reports the video came from a city surveillance camera on Chicago's West Side. Twenty-four-year-old Brittany Hill was fatally shot on Tuesday as she stood next to some parked cars with her 1-year-old daughter in her arms. Authorities say Hill placed her body over the girl to shield her from the bullets. Two central Illinois men have been charged in Hill's death.

Missing mom's estranged husband and his girlfriend arrested

HARTFORD,

(AP)—Police investigating the disappearance of a Connecticut mother of five have arrested her estranged husband and his girlfriend on charges of evidence tampering and hindering prosecution, authorities announced Sunday. Police in the wealthy New York City suburb of New Canaan said Fotis Dulos, 51, and Michelle Troconis, 44, were taken into custody in Avon, Connecticut, late Saturday. Both were detained on \$500,000 bail and are scheduled to be arraigned Monday in Norwalk Superior Court. Details of the allegations were not released. Jennifer Dulos, 50, of New Canaan. went missing May 24 after dropping her kids off at school and missing appointments that day. She has not been found. Police have searched locations in several towns including a park in New Canaan where Jennifer Dulos' vehicle was found and a home in Farmington where Jennifer Dulos and her children, who range in age from 8 to 13 and include two sets of twins, had lived until about two years ago. Fotis Dulos has continued to live at the Farmington house.

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Asia

Prosperity, repression mark China 30 years after Tiananmen

BEIJING (AP)—Thirty years since the Tiananmen Square protests, China's economy has catapulted up the world rankings, yet political repression is harsher than ever.

Hundreds of thousands of Muslims are held in re-education camps without charge, student activists face relentless harassment and leaders in the beleaguered dissident community have been locked up or simply vanished.

Religious groups face ever greater pressure to conform, and a web of mass surveillance is bolstering a system many call totalitarian. It's a far cry from the hopes of the idealistic student demonstrators, and a level of control far beyond what many imagined possible, even after the army's bloody crushing of the protests on the night of June 3-4, 1989.

Critics say the Tiananmen crackdown, which left hundreds, possibly thousands, dead, set the ruling Communist Party on its present course of ruthless suppression, summary incarceration and the frequent use of violence against opponents in the name of "stability maintenance."

"The June 4 incident changed the direction of Chinese history," said Zhang Lianwei, who in 1989 was a scholar at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. "The narrative that China would grow strong and normal, become a stable country through



a process of political reform, was destroyed."

Chinese officials routinely respond to questions about the suppression by pointing to the economic progress China has made. In the three decades since the protests, China has risen to become the world's second-largest economy and is forging ahead in areas from high-speed rail to artificial intelligence and 5G mobile communications.

China's navy now sails around the globe, its space program has launched half a dozen crewed missions and its sprawling cross-border infrastructure projects are extending its influence from Nairobi to the Netherlands.

Politically, however, the state has never been more repressive. Restrictions on freedom of speech have been extended from publishing into social media, and the slightest act of perceived defiance can prompt a near instantaneous response from the authorities. The sprawling domestic security apparatus operates with impunity, coerced confessions are broadcast on state television and prison sentences are handed out on the flimsiest of charges, including "picking quarrels" and "incitement to subversion."

Calls for even moderate reforms have been attacked or just ignored. An attempt to introduce grass-roots democracy at the village level years ago foundered after the Communist Party refused to concede even a modicum of control. Deliberative bodies at all levels are filled with party appointees who vote how they're told, and the national legislature is a mere rubber stamp body, re-electing president and party head Xi Jinping last year by a margin of 2,970 to 0.

Regarded as China's most powerful leader in a generation, Xi took the opportunity to amend the constitution and remove presidential term limits, making him president-for-life if he so chooses. While the party is believed to be rife with power struggles, Xi's ongoing anti-corruption campaign and the threat of heavy prison sentences keep his opponents in check.

In the wake of the Tiananmen crackdown, efforts to supervise the party's workings and control corruption through the media and public A Taiwanese man takes a selfie with an inflatable tank man at the Liberty Square of Chiang Kaishek Memorial Hall in Taipei, Taiwan, Saturday, June 1, 2019.

oversight were lost, Zhang said. While it ushered in the era of new party leader Jiang Zemin under which the economy grew, graft also became endemic, faith in communism was exhausted and interpersonal relationships revolved around sheer personal gain, essentially finishing off what the violent, radical Cultural Revolution had begun almost 20 years earlier, he said.

"The moment the government ordered its army to fire on its own people, it lost its legitimacy," said Rowena Xiaoqing He, a former Tiananmen protester who teaches about the movement at St. Michael's College in Vermont.

"Of course, those in power can easily manipulate history and twist our memory. But that kind of manipulation and suppression of history is always followed by distortions of all kinds-social, political, psychological," He said. "It is indeed impossible to understand today's China without understanding the spring of 1989."

Speaking at a regional defense forum in Singapore on Sunday, Chinese Defense Minister Wei Fenghe defended the government's response to the protests, drawing the stock link to China's post-1989 development.

Duterte wary over US-China trade war, wants it resolved soon

TOKYO (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte expressed deep concerns Friday about the escalating U.S.-China trade war and its impact on the global economy, including that of his country.

Duterte, who is visiting Japan for talks with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, says a protracted dispute would shrink world trade and investment.

He told reporters that the trade war is creating uncertainty and tension, adding, "There must be a resolution soon."

Duterte also urged more foreign investment in the Philippines, claiming he has eradicated corruption and that investments are safe. "In my term, (our money) is safe. ... There is no corruption. I have killed all of them already," he said jokingly.

The brash populist leader has campaigned against illegal drugs and corruption, while being accused of massive human rights violations because of the deaths of thousands of mostly poor suspects in his anti-drug war. Duterte, midway through the single six-year term Philippine presidents are allowed, solidified his grip on power this month with midterm election victories by his allies.

Duterte and Abe met Friday and discussed trade, investment and growing Chinese activity in disputed regional seas.

At a joint news conference with Abe, Duterte said he was "pleased with the growing interest and confident the Philippines is a preferred trade and investment destination for Japanese businesses."

Abe pledged Japan will continue to strongly support the Philippines' sustainable economic development, including "quality infrastructure" projects in politically unstable Mindanao in the south.

Acting defense chief: Major drills with SKorea still on hold SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— Acting Defense Secretary Pat-

rick Shanahan said Sunday that so far he sees no need to restore large-scale military exercises with South Korea that have been curtailed over the past year as a diplomatic olive branch to North Korea.

"I'm confident that we have the readiness that we are required to have," Shanahan said as he flew to Seoul to meet with his commanders and South Korean officials. But he also said he wants to discuss the issue with his top American commander in South Korea, Army Gen. Robert Abrams, to "make sure that the plan that we put in place is sufficient."

Shanahan's visit to Seoul comes as the U.S. and partners in the region weigh how to respond to missile tests conducted last month by North Korea. The tests fuel debate over whether the elimination of drills may impair the U.S. and South Korea's ability to respond if the North is once again turning away from diplomacy and moving to heighten hostilities.

Senior U.S. officials, including Shanahan, have said that the North Korean test launches of what they believe were short-range ballistic missiles were a violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. The North has defended the launches as efforts to exercise its right to self-defense.

South Korea and the U.S. last year eliminated larger military drills and said they would replace them with smaller exercises. The North has viewed the large drills as an invasion rehearsal. In place of the bigger exercises, the U.S. and South Korea have been doing newly designed command post drills and revised field training programs.

The decision to dump the bigger drills came last June after President Donald Trump's first summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Trump abruptly announced the decision, saying that he disapproved of what he called U.S. 'war games" in South Korea. He called the maneuvers provocative and expensive.

At the time, military leaders defended the move as a way to support diplomacy aimed at resolving the North Korean nuclear crisis. Pentagon officials said they believed the shift to smaller exercises would not harm military readiness, but that the decision would be periodically re-evaluated.

Last September, Abrams said at his Senate confirmation hearing that the suspension of the drills had contributed to a "slight" dip in combat readiness.

And some experts say it will likely weaken the allies' military readiness and hurt the ability of the U.S. and South Korean troops to work seamlessly together in the event of an attack or other emergency.

On Saturday in Singapore,

Shanahan made clear that the U.S. believes that North Korea "remains an extraordinary threat." He told the Shangri-La Dialogue security conference that Pyongyang has "neared a point where it could credibly strike regional allies, U.S. territory and our forwarddeployed forces."

Heightened tensions with the North in 2017 were followed by a surprising diplomatic outreach by Pyongyang in 2018, when Kim attended summits with the South Korean and Chinese presidents and with Trump. But North Korea has not received what it wants most from its summitry: relief from punitive sanctions imposed over its nuclear and missile programs.

A summit earlier this year between Trump and Kim ended in failure, with the United States saying that North Korea was not offering to take enough disarmament steps in return for the widespread sanctions relief it sought.

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World

Pompeo says US ready to talk to Iran with 'no preconditions'

BELLINZONA, Switzerland (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Sunday that the Trump administration is ready for unconditional discussions with Iran in an effort to ease rising tensions that have sparked fears of conflict. But the United States will not relent in trying to pressure the Islamic Republic to change its behavior in the Middle East, America's top diplomat said.

Pompeo repeated longstanding U.S. accusations that Iran is bent on destabilizing the region, but he also held out the possibility of talks as President Donald Trump has suggested. Trump himself had raised the idea of talks "without preconditions" in July

2018, although that was well ing table and solve any probbefore tensions had reached their current point.

In the 11 months since then, the U.S. has imposed crippling sanctions on Iran, first in November and then again last month, targeting the most lucrative sectors of its economy. The action has drawn Iran's ire and strong words of threatened retaliation.

Iran's president, Hassan Rouhani, said the U.S. must return to the historic 2015 nuclear deal, which Trump withdrew from in May 2018. He was quoted by Iran's state-run IRNA news agency as saying that if the U.S. "realizes that the way it chose was incorrect, then we can sit at the negotiatlem." Otherwise, he said, Iran has no choice but resistance.

While the latest offer may not pan out, Pompeo made it during a visit to Switzerland, the country that long has represented American interests in Iran, as part of a European trip aimed at assuring wary leaders that the U.S. is not eager for war

"We're prepared to engage in a conversation with no preconditions," Pompeo told reporters at a news conference with his Swiss counterpart. "We're ready to sit down with them, but the American effort to fundamentally reverse the malign activity of this Islamic Republic, this revolutionary

force, is going to continue."

Iran's foreign minister dismissed Trump's invitation for Iranian officials to contact him about possible talks.

"It's not very likely because talking is the continuation of the process of pressure. He is imposing pressure. This may work in a real estate market. It does not work in dealing with Iran," Javad Zarif told ABC's "This Week."

Separate from Pompeo's remarks about Iran, The Washington Post reported Sunday that the American secretary of state recently told a private gathering of Jewish leaders in New York that the administration's long-awaited Mideast peace plan might be argued to be "unexecutable" and might not "gain traction." Citing an audio recording of the remarks delivered Tuesday, the Post reported that Pompeo expressed his hope that the peace deal isn't simply dismissed out of hand.

The plan that Trump has called "the deal of the century" has been delayed several times, as Pompeo noted to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Downplaying expectations for finding the key to an agreement ending the conflict, he told the group there are "no guarantees that we're the ones that unlock it."

In Switzerland, Pompeo's meeting with Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis in the southern Swiss town of Bellinzona came amid concerns about the potential for escalation and miscalculation with Iran—a situation that has many in Europe and the Middle East on

Cassis, whose country has been an intermediary between the two before, made no secret of that nervousness.

"The situation is very tense. We are fully aware, both parties are fully aware, of this tension. Switzerland, of course, wishes there is no escalation, no escalation to violence," he said. "Both parties are now increasing the pressure, and for the rest this is a matter of worry, but we cannot do anything unless we get a mandate from both parties."

5 injured in Venice as cruise ship slams into tourist boat

VENICE, Italy A towering, out-of-control cruise ship rammed into a dock and a tourist riverboat on a busy Venice canal on Sunday morning, injuring five people, officials said. The collision sparked new calls for placing restrictions on cruise ships in the famed city.

The crash happened about 8:30 a.m. (0630 GMT) on the Giudecca Canal, a major thoroughfare that leads to St. Mark's Square in the northeastern Italian city.

The MSC Opera cruise ship, apparently unable to stop, blared its horn as it slammed into the much smaller River Countess boat and the dock as dozens of people ran away in panic. In videos of the crash, people were seen rushing to disembark from the moored riverboat over a short gangplank, and at least two people were left caught on the walk-

way as the vessel was dislodged from the pier.

Elisabetta Pasqualin was watering plants on her terrace when she heard warning sirens and stepped out to see the crash

"There was this huge ship in a diagonal position in the Giudecca Canal, with a tugboat near which seemed like it couldn't do anything," she said.

She described the ship "advancing slowly but inevitably towards the dock." She said "the bow of the ship crashed hard into the bank with its massive weight crushing a big piece of it. Sirens were wailing loudly; it was a very dramatic scene."

When the cruise ship rammed the riverboat, she said the smaller vessel looked like it was "made of plastic or paper" rather than steel.

Local officials said five women aboard the riverboat

were injured. They said one was released immediately from a hospital, while four others were advised to remain under medical care for a few days.

Earlier, medical authorities said four of the women—an American, a New Zealander and two Australians between the ages of 67 and 72—were injured falling or trying to run away when the cruise ship rammed into the River Countess.

Venice is a tremendously popular site for both tourists and cruise ships, especially during the summer tourist season.

The cruise ship's owner, MSC Cruises, said the vessel was about to dock at a passenger terminal in Venice when it had a mechanical problem. Two tugboats guiding the cruise ship into Venice tried to stop the MSC Opera, but they were unable to prevent it from ramming into the riverboat.

"The two tugboats tried to stop the giant and then a tow cable broke, cut by the collision with the riverboat," Davide Calderan, president of a tugboat association in Venice, told the Italian news agency ANSA.

Calderan said the cruise ship's engine was locked when the captain called for help.

Italian media posted an audio clip of the MSC Opera's pilot telling emergency officials that the ship experienced a loss of controls and "activated all the procedures to avoid what in the end happened, which was an impact."

On an audio clip, the pilot said anchors were dropped and that tugboats connected to the ship's bow and stern took maneuvers to stop the ship. "Here on the bridge, we don't understand what happened," the pilot is heard saying. An investigation was launched.

German government wobbles after Social Democrat leader quits

BERLIN (AP)—German Chancellor Angela Merkel vowed Sunday to continue with her government after the leader of the centerleft Social Democrats, a junior partner in the coalition, resigned following a series of disappointing election results.

In a surprise announcement hours earlier, Andrea Nahles had announced she planned to quit, saying she wanted "clarity" after questions were raised about her ability to lead the Social Democrats. The party finished third in last month's European Parliament election, receiving 15.8% of the vote behind Merkel's centerright Union bloc with 28.9% and the Greens with 20.5%.

"The necessary support for me to carry out my duties isn't there anymore," Nahles said in a statement. The 48-year-old said she would be stepping down from her post as chairwoman of the Social Democrats and leader of its parliamentary faction in the coming days to ensure that her successors are found "in an orderly fashion."

Merkel voiced respect for Nahles' decision, calling her a "fine character" who she had worked with closely over the years.

"Of course I also respect the decisions that the Social Democratic Party now needs to take," she told reporters in Berlin.

"We will continue the work of government, with all seriousness and especially with a great sense of responsibility," Merkel

added, noting the numerous challenges that need to be tackled in Germany, Europe and beyond.

The leader of Merkel's party also sought to downplay the possibility that the "grand coalition" of Germany's two biggest parties would collapse.

"I'm working on the assumption that the Social Democrats will now swiftly make the necessary personnel decisions and the grand coalition's ability to act won't be compromised," Kramp-Karren-Annegret bauer told reporters.

"We continue to stand by the grand coalition," she added. In a swipe at her own critics within the Christian Democrats, Kramp-Karrenbauer warned that "this is not the hour for tactical considerations within the party."

Nahles took over as party leader in February 2018, as the Social Democrats reluctantly extended their coalition with Merkel's conservatives following a poor showing in the previous year's German election.

While the Social Democrats have managed to push through their agenda of improving social welfare and working conditions for millions of Germans, voters haven't rewarded the party for it in the polls.

Instead, many turned to the environmentalist Greens, the far-right anti-migrant Alternative for Germany, the socialist Left party or Merkel's increasingly centrist Union bloc in recent years.



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Focus

By SHARON COHEN and LINDSEY TANNER

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP)—Pardeep Singh Kaleka has surveyed the landscape of an America scarred by mass shootings.

Seven years ago, a white supremacist invaded a Sikh temple in Wisconsin and killed six worshippers — among them Kaleka's father, who died clutching a butter knife he'd grabbed in a desperate attempt to stop the shooter. Now, whenever another gunman bloodies another town, Kaleka posts a supportive message on social media. Then later, either by invitation or on his own initiative, he'll journey to the community to shore up others who share his pain.

He's been to Newtown, Connecticut. Charleston, South Carolina. Pittsburgh. "We've become kind of a family," Kaleka says.

It's true. The unending litany of mass shootings in recent years — the latest, on Friday, leaving 12 dead in Virginia Beach, Virginia — has built an unacknowledged community of heartbreak, touching and warping the lives of untold thousands.

All the survivors, none of them unscathed. The loved ones of the living and dead. Their neighbors, relatives and colleagues. The first responders, the health care workers, the elected officials.

The attacks have changed how America talks, prays and prepares for trouble. Today, the phrases "active shooter" and "shelter in place" need no explanation. A house of worship will have a priest, a rabbi or an imam — and maybe, an armed guard. And more schools are holding "lockdown drills" to prepare students for the possibility of a shooter

Post-traumatic stress disorder was once largely associated with combat-weary veterans; now some police and firefighters tormented by the memories of the carnage they've witnessed are seeking professional help. Healing centers have opened to offer survivors therapy and a place gather. Support groups of survivors of mass shootings have formed.

Mayors, doctors, police and other leaders who've endured these crises are paying it forward — offering comfort, mentoring and guidance to the next town that has to wrestle with the nightmare.

Former Oak Creek Mayor Stephen Scaffidi, who'd been on the job just four months at the time of the 2012 Sikh temple attack, remembers a call that night from the mayor of

Aurora, Colorado, where 12 people had been fatally shot at a movie theater less than three weeks earlier. "He gave me the best advice I could ever receive in that moment: 'Be calm. Reassure your community. And only speak to what you know. Don't speculate, don't pretend to be an expert on something that you're not," Scaffidi recalls.

Last year, two days after the fatal shooting of 17 students and staff at Marjory Stoneman

100 percent right."

The two mayors have since become fast friends and Hunschofsky visited Santa Fe. "We're bonded for life," Tabor says.

Mass shootings account for a tiny percentage of homicides, but their scale sets them apart. In 1999, the Columbine shooting shocked the nation with its unforgettable images of teens running from the school with their hands up scenes repeated in other simi-Douglas High School, Chris- lar attacks years later. Today,

hints of their emotional wallop. The National Center for PTSD estimates 28 percent of people who have witnessed a mass shooting develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and about a third develop acute stress disorder.

Laura Wilson, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Mary Washington in Virginia conducted a meta-analysis — an examination of data from 11 studies of PTSD symptoms among more than 8,000 participants who does not make sense to us. ... It just rattles us to our core."

And yet, some people don't fully appreciate the lasting psychological wounds of those who escaped physical harm.

A study conducted by a University of Nevada-Las Vegas professor after the 2017 Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting that left 58 people dead found PTSD levels for those at the concert remained elevated at least a year later. Most of these people had a friend, family member or coto get a little sick, some people are going to be very sick. Some people might have compromised immune systems and if they're exposed they have a very high risk for lifethreatening illness. Suicide is like the extreme outcome."

In one week in March, two student survivors of the Parkland school shooting killed themselves. Around the same time, the father of a 6-year-old killed girl in Newtown died of an apparent suicide. He had created a foundation in his daughter's name to support research on violence prevention.

Austin Eubanks, Columbine student who was shot and watched his best friend die in the school massacre, died last month, possibly of an overdose. He struggled with opioid use after the attack and later became an addiction recovery speaker. A memorial fund established in his name is seeking funds for a trauma-informed program for families and victims of mass violence.

After the Parkland suicides, Hunschofsky says, many people sought mental health help for the first time. "They just told me, 'I thought I was OK, but after this happened, maybe I'm not. Maybe I do need to talk to someone." The community's wellness center, established after the Parkland shooting, extended its hours.

A similar program, the Resiliency Center of Newtown, is an informal gathering place for those grappling with anxiety, depression and PTSD. Though the school attack occurred 6½ years ago, the center still gets new clients and after every mass shooting, more people stop by.

"Your heart hurts every time a new tragedy happens because you know what those people who are impacted are going to have to go through and what the community is going to go through, and that's hard," says Stephanie Cinque, the center's founder and executive director. "You don't just get over it and move on."

In Florida, Orange County Sheriff John Mina, Orlando's police chief during the 2016 massacre at the Pulse nightclub, realized that when he reached out to law enforcement peers — former chiefs of Aurora and Newtown afterward. "'What do you think I should be doing six months, a year from now?" he asked. "They said, 'John, you're not going to be dealing with this a year. You're going to be dealing with this five or 10 years. That was like a punch in the gut."

See MASS on Next Page

Mass shootings transform how America talks, prays, prepares



After lighting 12 candles, Veronica Coleman leads the congregation in prayer during a vigil for Ryan Keith Cox at the Piney Grove Baptist Church in Virginia Beach, Va., Sunday June 2, 2019. Cox was killed while trying to help people during the mass shooting at the Virginia Beach Municipal Center several days earlier.

tine Hunschofsky, mayor of Parkland, Florida, met the mother of a 6-year-old killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School who offered a road map into the future.

"She forewarned me of many of the things that we would encounter," Hunschofsky recalls. "She said at first it will seem like everyone comes together. Then it seems like a tsunami that hits the community. People become very divided. This is all normal after a mass trauma."

Three months later, it was Hunschofsky's turn. She sent a message to the incoming mayor of Santa Fe, Texas, where a school shooting left 10 dead. "She told me this is not going to be the hardest day and harder days are coming," recalls Mayor Jason Tabor. "'Prepare for that.' She was the public sees and hears about these events as they unfold, through live-streamed video or tweets.

Each tragedy is horrifying, but the sense of it-can't-happen-here has worn off.

"We're a desensitized society," says Jaclyn Schildkraut, a criminologist at the State University of New York at Os-

"There is an element of mass shooting fatigue where we've gone from ONE MORE," she says, her voice rising with exasperation, "to add another one to the list. Everybody immediately goes for the gun argument ... and maybe throw a little mental health in there, but we really don't have a consistent, prolonged conversation about these events and how to prevent them."

Studies have offered some

ranged from those who'd witnessed shootings to those who just lived in the communities in a 20-year period. She found the greater the exposure — someone who was at the scene or who lost a friend or family the greatest risk of developing PTSD. But, in her work, Wilson has found other factors, too, including previous psychological symptoms and a lack of social support, also played a role in increasing the likelihood.

"Mass shootings are a different type of trauma." Wilson says. "People are confronted with the idea that bad things can happen to good people. ... Most people have a hard time reconciling the idea that a young, innocent person made the good decision to go to school, was sitting there, learning and was murdered. That

worker asking — as early as 1½ months after the event why they were still troubled.

"Almost everyone had someone say, 'Get over it. Why are you letting this bother you?" says Stephen Benning, a psychology professor who conducted the research. Those kinds of remarks were associated with increased levels of PTSD, which lasted longer than depression.

April Foreman, a psychologist and board member of the American Association of Suicidology, likens exposure to mass shootings to a flu epidemic that affects the entire community in different ways.

"When we have these mass casualty events it's like an outbreak of a virus," she says. "Some people might be immune or not susceptible to that strain. Some people are going 18 TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Overdrive

By MARK PHELAN

DETROIT FREE PRESS

The 2019 Honda Passport SUV is an overflowing scoop of the finest vanilla automaking, topped with sprinkles of driver assistance features, interior space and price competitors will struggle to match.

Honda will sell every one of them that its plant in Lincoln, Ala., can turn out.

The Passport is the latest in a growing class of vehicles aimed at drivers who like the height, convenience and trendiness of an SUV, but can do without the parental connotations of three-row family haulers like Honda's own Pilot, which not coincidentally rolls off the same assembly line as the Passport.

Five-passenger midsize SUVs like the Passport—bigger than a five-seat Honda CR-V, not as big as the seven-seat Pilot—are the flavor of the month. Automakers expect to charge as much for them as for bigger three-row models, netting a handsome return on the relatively small investment of a model that shares many parts with its bigger sibling.

How much?

Passport prices start at \$31,990 for a front-wheel drive model. All-wheel drive raises the tab \$1,900 to \$33,890. All Passports come with a 280-hp 3.5-liter V6 and nine-speed automatic transmission.

The Passport's main com-

2019 Honda Passport SUV brings the steak

petitors are the Chevrolet Blazer—also new for 2019—the Ford Edge and Nissan Murano.

Passport prices are competitive with those SUVs, but the top Elite model has more standard equipment than the comparable Blazer, Edge and Murano, giving it an effective price advantage.

The Subaru Outback is new for 2020. I haven't tested one yet. Prices, specifications and fuel economy are not available for comparison.

I tested a loaded AWD Passport Elite. Features included adaptive cruise control; lane-keeping assist; blind-spot alert; front collision alert and automatic braking; Apple Car Play; Android Auto; navigation; Bluetooth; navigation; touch screen; leather interior trim; heated and ventilated front seats; heated rear seats; and 20-inch alloy wheels.

It stickered at \$43,680. All prices exclude destination charges.

Living with a Passport

The Passport has the biggest passenger compartment and most luggage space in the group. Day to day, that

means lots of head, shoulder and legroom in both rows of seats. There's plenty of storage space in the front seat, particularly from a wide and deep bin in the center console.

The front bucket seats have flimsy fold-down armrests that I had to readjust every time I buckled my seat belt. Most SUVs use a taller bin in the center console with a padded lid for a center armrest, but Honda says its buyers like the flip-down armrests, which its CR-V compact SUV also has.

The dashboard, armrests and door tops are covered in soft materials that look and feel good.

There's a big, easy-to-use touchscreen with Apple Car-Play and Android Auto compatibility for smartphones. Voice recognition is good.

Unfortunately, Honda omitted a tuning dial from the controls in the center stack. Using buttons or "seek/scan" is a pain in the neck compared to turning a dial when you want to sift through a bunch of stations or tracks on your music device.

The Passport will carry four or five adults to dinner comfortably, fulfilling what automakers believe is Job 1 for midsize

There's a big, easy-to-use SUVs with two rows of seats.

Specifications as tested

Oddly for a new Honda, the Passport Elite's fuel efficiency is nowhere near the leaders in its class. The EPA rates the AWD model I tested at 19 mpg in the city, 24 on the highway and 21 combined. That's not atrocious, but it is lowest among the SUVs we're talking about.

At current prices, that's just \$150 a year more to fuel the Passport, per the Environmental Protection Agency.

Not make-or-break money for anybody shopping \$40K+SUVs, but what's the world coming to when a new Honda is a backward step in fuel efficiency?

Choose your battles

I discussed the Blazer's failure to challenge the leaders' efficiency with Chevrolet engineers when I tested it earlier this year. They said styling and features trump fuel economy for likely buyers of five-seat midsize SUVs. Accordingly, they prioritized looks, performance and handling. The Blazer has the most power in the group, and movie star looks.

The Passport is attractive, but a wallflower compared to the Blazer, Edge and Murano—a trio of vehicles as gorgeous as any slice of the car market. The jury's out on the Outback until I walk up to one from every angle for a few days. Subaru's not exactly famous for styling flair, but the Outback has established a handsome and consistent look after 25 years on the market.

Honda prioritized room, safety equipment and price. That could be enough to keep vanilla's winning streak intact.

And who knows? The Passport may look daring when the almost inevitable, and inevitably conservative looking, Toyota five-seat midsize SUV hits the market.



2019 Honda Passport (Honda).

MASS

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- There were some immediate lessons learned, he says. Among them: improved communications with the fire department and better equipment. After the Pulse shooting, officers were given Kevlar helmets and an extra layer of body armor that will stop rifle rounds.
- Mental health debriefings were held six months and a year after the shooting rampage for Orlando officers who went to the nightclub that morning.
- Some have reached beyond the department to UCF RESTORES, a clinic at the University of Central Florida that helps trauma victims. It was originally designed to serve the military, but has expanded to include first responders and sexual assault victims, among others.
- Deborah Beidel, the clinic's director, says first responders called to mass shootings face trauma similar to those in combat. About 50 firefighters, police and paramedics who were at Parkland and Pulse have been treated,

- most in a three-week outpatient program that exposes them to the sounds, smells and sights they encountered that caused their PTSD.
- For those inside the Pulse, Beidel says, "the sound of cell-phones ringing and ringing and ringing and no one answering them became a trigger for many people. Afterward, any time they heard a cellphone, particularly that Marimba ring on the iPhone, they would have a flashback."
- Beidel says the goal isn't to make workers forget but to "put that memory in a file where it no longer affects every other aspect of their life, so that they no longer are restricted in what they can do because ... of flashbacks or panic or whatever they might be experiencing."
- Jimmy Reyes, a 35-yearold Orlando firefighter, enrolled in the program about five months after Pulse. He'd been haunted by the memory of tending to more than two dozen bloody, wounded people carried from the club, sprawled over a parking lot, screaming in agony.
- After more than four stressful hours caring for the wounded, not knowing who'd

- live or die, he returned home. As he and his wife watched the TV news, he began sobbing. She held him. "We did the best that we could," he told her.
- Less than a week later, Reyes had a panic attack while working a second job — he was on a safety team in a jet ski race. "I couldn't breathe," he says. "I kept telling myself, 'You'll be fine. It'll pass." It didn't. He dreaded another big call at work.
- Firefighters, he says, "kind of bury a lot of stuff. It gets put in a file in the back of your head. That's what I thought this was going to be."
- But it didn't stay there. He was short-tempered with his family. He had little interest in doing anything but sitting at home. Finally, Reyes decided to seek help.
- For three weeks, he relived his experiences, answering questions from a therapist as he told his Pulse story over and over, recalling everything he saw, including one man talking on his cellphone who'd been shot in the head and another critically wounded who asked, "Am I going to die?" At certain points, the therapist would cue up sounds

he'd heard — gunshots from inside the club, the wail of the sirens, an explosion.

- At first, he says, he cried. By the end of the sessions, he was dry-eyed and calm.
- Reyes is better now and remains a firefighter. He never considered quitting. But he's changed.
- "I felt like I was normal before Pulse," he says. "I was a very happy guy, no problems, no issues with mental health. Now I still deal with depression. I still deal with anxiety. ... I look back at those days. ... June 11th, I was normal. Then June 12th happened. I'm a completely different person."
- So is Las Vegas trauma surgeon Dave MacIntyre.
- He talks in a rapid-fire, breathless way about the chaos 19 months after the Route 91 shooting. More than 90 severely injured patients in 113 minutes. He repeats that phrase as if it still hasn't completely sunk in. After 20 years, he's now a part-time trauma surgeon looking to get out of the operating room completely. MacIntyre enrolled in January in an executive MBA program for doctors, with plans on becoming a consultant for helping hospi-

tals deal with similar challenges. He's trying meditation, too.

- MacIntyre didn't realize he had PTSD until an MBA program coach picked up on his symptoms anxiety, stress, short temper, avoidance. His marriage has suffered. His work, too. "I find it very hard to talk to family members and give them bad news ... much more so than before," he says.
- After the shootings, his hospital brought in therapy dogs and counselors for the staff but not everyone participated. "As physicians we're not going to want to show weakness. We're not going to want to go into an auditorium full of people or get on the floor and pet dogs," he says. "A lot of physicians internalize. You get to the point where it's unbearable."
- It was different for Brian Murphy. He says he didn't have any psychological trauma after the shootings at the Sikh temple.
- Murphy, the first officer on the scene, was shot 15 times. His face, hands, arms and legs were riddled with bullets. One bullet remains lodged in his skull; another in his throat after slicing one

vocal card and paralyzing the other, leaving him with a permanent rasp.

- Medically retired from the Oak Creek police department, Murphy completed the master's degree in criminal justice administration he'd started before he was injured.
- He now works for the company that makes the bulletproof vest that stopped three rounds that struck him that August day. He counsels other wounded officers, talking about something deep in his DNA resiliency.
- Murphy gets injections in his throat every three months to stop scar tissue from tightening and has some trouble swallowing, but he has no complaints, noting he was first told he'd never talk or eat on his own. "Once I knew I wasn't going to die, everything else was butter," he says.
- He credits his family's support for rebounding. And he refuses to let the shooting dominate his thoughts.
- "It's not like I wake up and say, 'I can't believe this happened.' It's just life now. I don't think there's a tremendous amount of good that comes from looking behind."

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Life & Style

In Asian-led 'Always Be My Maybe,' ethnicity is secondary

By TERRY TANG ASSOCIATED PRESS

The newly released Netflix movie "Always Be My Maybe," is an Asian American rom-com with a twist: Ethnicity isn't central to the plot.

It's just stand-up comedian and actress Ali Wong and "Fresh Off the Boat" actor Randall Park playing best friends and soul mates who happen to be Asian, which may be the most refreshing part of all.

"It wasn't the type of thing where we sat down and said before we wrote it, 'OK, we got to represent and make sure we're making the perfect Asian American movie," Park told The Associated Press. "It was more like, 'Let's make a really heartfelt and really funny romantic comedy, a movie that we'd really love to see.""

In the flick, best friends Sasha (Wong) and Marcus (Park), who grew up next door to each other in San Francisco, lose touch after a night of passion. They are reunited 15 years later when Sasha, now a celebrity chef, temporarily moves back home to launch a new restaurant.

Meanwhile, Marcus works for his father's air conditioning company while playing in a band. Despite both of them being in relationships and having opposite lifestyles, it's clear the more-than-friends feelings are still there.

Like "Crazy Rich Asians," the film showcases an all-Asian ensemble and it's romantic and funny. But that's where the similarities end.

Wong, Park and Michael



This undated image shows Randall Park and Ali Wong in a scene from the movie "Always Be My Maybe."

Golamco, who met doing theater at the University of California, Los Angeles, in the late '90s, co-wrote the screenplay that has more in common with "When Harry Met Sally" than "Crazy Rich Asians."

While the cast is Asian American, there's no prominent East-meets-West culture clash story line like in "Crazy Rich Asians."

Park, who plays a sweetnatured father of three on TV's "Fresh Off the Boat," has always wanted to play a romantic lead.

"I never really got afforded the chance by the industry. So it was the type of thing

'Well, I guess I got to write it," said Park, who is Korean American

First-time movie director Nahnatchka Khan, who is also the creator of "Fresh Off the Boat," said it was thrilling to watch him embrace playing a romantic leading man.

"He just pulls off the emotion," Khan said. "I think everybody has seen him be really funny in all of his TV and movie work. But to have him kind of carry this movie on his shoulders, you feel for him and you're rooting for him."

Wong, who is Vietnamese and Chinese American, is courted by two other characters played by Keanu Reeves, who is part Chinese and Native Hawaiian, and Daniel Dae Kim, who is Korean American. To see men of Asian descent playing the rivals is significant because those roles could have easily been cast with non-Asian American actors.

"What I find interesting about this particular film is that the three main romantic rivals ... they're all playing different types of Asian American men," said Keith Chow, creator of online pop culture website The Nerds of Color.

The characters are seen doing activities commonly associated with Asians, like eating dim sum or going to a Korean spa. But, there are also subtler nods to Asian culture, like people taking off their shoes when they enter homes.

The filmmakers strived for authenticity, like using a working dim sum restaurant and its servers in a scene.

"It just made the experience even better," Park said.

Unlike previous mainstream rom-coms that take place in San Francisco, a lot of the bars and restaurant scenes have plenty of Asian extras in the background. That was something Khan was always conscious of.

"On the monitors, I would

always look at each frame and just make sure the crowd felt real, it felt authentic," Khan said.

It was also integral to Park in scenes where Marcus performs with his band Hello Peril. After college, he performed in a largely Asian American band like in the movie.

"Because of that, Asian Americans came to our shows," Park said. "Just by nature, the community comes out to support and that's reflected in those scenes and in reality."

Chow said he hopes the film will continue to normalize stories focused on Asians so that they are not seen as "niche." And so Asian Americans will not feel pressure that movies or TV shows have to be hits so that someone else's project can get made.

"Give me the confidence of a mediocre white man," said Chow, cribbing a popular tweet from writer Sarah Hagi.

He added: "That's the dream you don't have to make the greatest work of art of all time just to get on a network."

Park, whose TV show has been renewed for a sixth season, thinks the window for opportunities for Asian-led stories has widened over the last few years.

"While I've been in this business, there's always been a belief that there wasn't an audience for these types of stories or these types of stories weren't relatable to a wider audience. I think at this point we've proven that they are," Park said. "That's a big step. We still have a long way to go and hopefully we'll get there."

Broken bee? Spelling experts say tougher words are out there

HILL, (AP)—The Scripps National Spelling Bee suffered a body blow when eight kids ended up co-champions because they were simply too accomplished to stumble over any of the words Scripps threw at them.

That doesn't mean it's irretrievably broken.

Even some critics who thought the words Thursday night were insultingly easy are optimistic that the bee can recover and produce a single champion next year and for many years to come.

"As spellers evolve, the bee does, too," 17-year-old former speller Grace Walters said Friday. She's the personal coach to last year's winner and three of this year's champions. "The

National Spelling Bee as we know it right now might be broken, but the bee is going to evolve. I think it can continue. ... I'll be really sad if it

featured strong contestants, a field as deep and well-prepared as any in the event's 94year history.

Of the 16 spellers in last year's prime-time finals, 10 made it back into this year's top 50. Seven made the top 16 for the second straight year, including two who advanced to ESPN's prime-time telecast three years in a row. (Both of those three-timers, Erin Howard and Shruthika Padhy, were among the eight champions.)

"It's still overwhelming to

look at the aptitude of these kids at one time," said Mirle Shivashankar, father of 2009 champion Kavya Shivashankar and 2015 co-champion Vanya Shivashankar. "We used to see The extraordinary 2019 bee these kinds of kids before, one at a time, two at a time. Tossing them in a group like that is just hard to digest for me."

From the beginning of the finals Thursday morning, Scripps was playing catch-up. Ten spellers exited in the first round of finals, more or less an expected number. But in the next round, only six misspelled. Just five dropped out in the round after that. The words had to get much tougher just to whittle the field to 16 kids in the span of $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

That's when bee organizers

huddled for an emergency strategy meeting, where they hatched a contingency plan to end the bee with more than the maximum of three co-champions allowed under the rules.

"The ability of those spellers was simply greater in aggregate than we prepared for," said Peter Sokolowski, an editor-at-large at Merriam-Webster who consults with Scripps but has no formal role in word selection or bee planning.

"They were structurally prepared for kind of a duel between two spellers. What they recognized was they didn't have enough words of that very high level, of the most difficult level. ... They were all difficult words, but not the most difficult words. They had

already gone through them."

But why did that happen? According to the former spellers-turned-professional coaches who helped this year's kids crack the bee's code, the Scripps word list has tendencies that are easy to figure out. SpellPundit, an online study guide started by two exspellers and used by all but two of the eventual champions, offers a full refund of its \$600 annual subscription fee if Scripps uses a word that isn't included in its database.

Among the weaknesses that spellers exploited: Scripps frequently repeats words from past bees.

"The spelling bee recycles words, so it's really predictable. There's really no rea-

son to recycle words," said Scott Remer, the 2008 fourthplace finisher and author of "Words of Wisdom: Keys to Success in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.'

"One thing they're probably going to want to do is start to branch out from the traditional, mainstay, bread-andbutter words that they've been asking," he said.

The 25-year-old Remer, who coached two of this year's champions, said too many words had familiar roots and patterns or were simply spelled phonetically, albeit in languages other than English.

"'Seitan,' that's just very standard Japanese patterns," Remer said. "A word like 'chapon' is pure, standard, very easy French. Just abides by all the French rules and it's six letters long."

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Celebrities branch out with podcasts of their own

NEW YORK (AP)—Topher Grace has added a lot of skills to his portfolio over the last few weeks.

He learned to beatbox. He officiated a wedding with "Shazam!" star Zachary Levi, and even tried telemarketing.

He's doing it all for a new role, but it has nothing to do with acting: Instead, he's trying different things in his recently launched podcast called "Minor Adventures with Topher Grace."

"It really is more fun for me than anyone else," said Grace.

"Tig Notaro came on and we did livestock auctioneering," he recalled. "I was so bad at it. But, upon listening back I realized, 'It really doesn't matter if I'm good or not. In fact, it's kind of better if (the adventure) is outside of everyone's comfort zone."

Grace is among the growing number of celebrities who are branching out to host their own podcasts. Notables including Lena Dunham, Chelsea Handler, Alyssa Milano, "Power's" Omari Hardwick and "Queer Eye" star Karamo Brown are among those who've launched their own approximately hour-long, weekly shows this year.

And Katharine Schwarzenegger hosts a podcast about rescuing pets.

For some, it's a way to be creative outside of the medium where they are traditionally known.

Hardwick's podcast, on the subscription-based Luminary Network, is called "Poetics." It's dedicated to poetry, which is one of his passions. At the end of each episode, Hardwick's guests must create original prose inspired by their conversation. It requires guests to dig below the surface and come up with prose based on their emotions and experiences.



This combination of photos shows celebrities, top row from left, Alyssa Milano, Kamaro Brown, David Tennant, and bottom row from left, Omari Hardwick, Lauren Conrad and Topher Grace, who have launched podcasts.

"We just kind of talk about their journey, their life and when they found a pen ... and where they see themselves going from that point on," said Hardwick. Guests have included Method Man. Big Daddy Kane, producer Rodney Jerkins and Dave East.

Others are using podcasts to call attention to things they care about.

Milano was looking for a way to bring attention to people who dedicate their lives to making change, but who aren't famous.

"There are so many people on the ground that fight every single day ... and the only reason why I get (media) interested is because I'm an actress, and that's great," said Milano.

But, she wondered, "How can I use that platform to empower others to make a difference?"

Milano's new podcast, 'Sorry Not Sorry ," attempts to highlight those change seekers. She speaks to activists including Manuel Olivier, a father who lost son Joaquin in the 2018 school shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas high school, and #MeToo activist Tarana Burke.

Lauren Conrad, who gained fame as an MTV reality star but later branched out to write books, design clothes and take on other projects, has added podcast host to her list with "Asking for a Friend," which features experts in various fields dishing on their work. Most guests are people she's worked with in the past.

"I felt like this was a very cool opportunity to sit down and talk with each of these people about all the things they've taught me," she said.

Grace also appreciates how a podcast allows for a space to share more of himself, but still in a controlled environment. He's rarely appeared in tabloids and was never a paparazzi favorite.

"I started to realize, 'Oh this is a way that I can share something that I love doing in my free time, but still I don't have to talk about anything I don't want to talk about, like family stuff." (For the record, Grace does mention his wife and baby on the show, but everything is on his terms.) Others like to use podcasts as a way to share their talent of getting others to open up.

Karamo Brown of "Queer Eye," says the success of the show has made people reach out to him for advice. His expertise on the series is culture, where he specializes in making people feel better about themselves. With his new podcast, Brown, who used to work as a social worker and psychotherapist, takes questions from real people looking for advice.

Brown says helping people find closure or to feel better, helps him: "I literally feel better about myself, it's contagious."

He believes people feel comfortable opening up to him because he's honest about his own past struggles.

A diminished 'Godzilla' still bests 'Rocketman,' 'Ma'

NEW YORK (AP)—The latest iteration of the Godzilla franchise took over the top spot from "Aladdin" and roared louder than Elton John at the weekend box office, but it still left a notably smaller footprint on North American theaters than its city-wrecking predecessors.

"Godzilla: King of the Monsters," Warner Bros. and Legendary Entertainment's sequel to 2014's "Godzilla," was brought down to size by poor reviews and middling interest

1. "Godzilla: King of the Monsters," \$49 million (\$130 million interna-

tional). "Aladdin," \$42.3 million (\$78.3 million international).
"Rocketman," \$25 million (\$19.2

million international) "Ma," \$18.3 million (\$2.8 million in-

5. "John Wick: Chapter 3-Parabel-

lum," \$11.1 million (\$12.7 million in-

"Avengers: Endgame," \$7.8 million (\$8.6 million international). "Pokemon Detective Pikachu,"

\$6.7 million (\$14.6 million interna-

"Booksmart," \$3.3 million.

"Brightburn," \$2.3 million.

10. "The Hustle," \$1.3 million.

from moviegoers, selling \$49 million in tickets, according to studio estimates Sunday.

While still good enough for No. 1, that total was \$10-15 million off industry expectations and close to half of the \$93 million debut of the previous "Godzilla" movie.

Still, the weekend, led by one of the most classic movie monsters. brought Hollywood's summer season into full swing. Last week's top film, Disney's live-action, blue-Will Smith "Aladdin" remake, slid to second with \$42 million in its second weekend. And a rush of newcomers, including the Elton John biopic "Rocketman" and the Octavia Spencer-led horror film "Ma," swelled theaters with a variety of options.

Dexter Fletcher's fantastical Elton John biopic "Rocketman," starring Taron Egerton, didn't launch with the same bravado as last year's Freddie Mercury biopic "Bohemian Rhapsody." But it opened solidly in third with \$25 million. The weekend's most profitable release, by percentage, was likely the Blumhouse Production thriller "Ma," which made \$18.2 million against a \$5 million budget.

Even with a toothless "Godzilla," the weekend was up drastically—62 percent, according to Comscore-from the same weekend last year, when the swiftly forgotten was in its second "Solo"

weekend. Part of the appeal of giant monster films from a studio standpoint is their

popularity in Asia. "Godzilla" This fared best in China, opening there with \$70 million. It made \$130 million internationally overall.

But in Godzilla, some see a flagging franchise of unrealized potential. In its three recent blockbuster iterations going back to Gareth Edwards' Sony release, none have drawn much

praise from fans or critics. This latest one, directed by Michael Dougherty, has a 40 percent fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Warner Bros. is developing a face-off movie between Godzilla and King Kong, who was last featured in "Kong: Skull Island." That 2017 release opened with \$61 million and went on to make \$566 million worldwide. Jeff Goldstein, distribution chief for Warner Bros., believes the \$200-million budgeted "King of the Monsters" can keep drawing moviegoers to the studio's ongoing monster franchises.

"The avid fans of Godzilla came out Thursday and Friday," said Goldstein. "The real key for us is how broadly can we expand over the next couple weeks? Can we hold on to an interest that's wider than the regular Godzilla fans? I think we can."

Russians criticize heavily edited version of Elton John film

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian gay rights activists and cultural figures are criticizing the local distributor of a new movie about Elton John for cutting scenes in it depicting homosexual activity and drug use.

deletions became known last week after a Moscow screening of the film "Rocketman."

The Moscow movie theater Pioner, noted for its adventurous programming, said it would ask for an original cut of the movie with Russian subtitles. But the theater said Sunday it had not received a response from the distributor.

Russian news agencies reported that the distribution company said the scenes were cut to conform with Russian

law but that the Ministry of Culture said it was not involved in the decision.

distributor indirectly supports book statement. "We urge people not to support such a policy and not to go see the Russian version of the film."

Although homosexuality is not criminalized in Russia, animosity toward gays remains strong. In 2013, the country passed a law banning so-called propaganda supporting nontraditional sexuality from being made available to minors.

Trailers for the Russian version of "Rocketman" showed it carrying a rating restricting it to viewers 18 years or older.

"So, one day we woke up in Saudi Arabia," film critic Anton Dolin said on Facebook, "In this way, the Russian criticizing the cuts. He said the "most repellent" aspect of the homophobia," the Russian cuts was the removal of the LGBT Network said in a Face- statement at the end of the how it can still be so cruelly movie that John eventually found "the love of his life" and has raised children with the man he married in 2014.

Nonetheless, Dolin said, "the theme of the hero's homosexuality is still central in the film."

Ksenia Sobchak, a liberal TV star who ran for president in 2016, said purging all homosexual content from a film about the singer would make it meaningless.

A joint statement from John and the filmmakers said "that

the local distributor has edited out certain scenes, denving the audience the opportunity to see the film as it was intended. is a sad reflection of the divided world we still live in and unaccepting of the love between two people."

John has previously criticized Russia's law on gay "propaganda" and comments by President Vladimir Putin that suggested gay people prey on children.

In 2015, phone pranksters tricked John into believing that he was talking to Putin about the issue. Putin actually later called the musician and said he would be willing to meet to discuss the matter, but no meeting has taken place.

Antonio Banderas grateful for a later-in-life Cannes award

(AP)—Antonio Banderas waited 40 years to receive one of the most prestigious awards an actor can obtain: the best actor award at the Cannes Film Festival. And he says he prefers it that way.

"When awards come at an early age, they make you make many mistakes, but I haven't made any mistakes," said Banderas, 58, in an interview this week with The Associated Press in Miami.

Banderas, whose credits in Hollywood include "The Mask of Zorro", was honored for his role as Salvador Mallo in Pedro Almodóvar's latest drama, "Pain and Glory."

It is their eighth film together, but the first in which Banderas portrays a version of his frienddirector. In "Pain and Glory," Mallo is a famous filmmaker reflecting on his life and his career that is based on Almodóvar, including a recreation of the director's Madrid apartment.

"Pedro Almodóvar is a very private person and I understood him", Banderas said. He took a step to "show a part of himself that he had never revealed before."

The film was a favorite for the Palme d'Or at Cannes, but Banderas was the one honored.

"It's a bittersweet feeling," said Banderas, who was in Florida for Miami Fashion Week.

When he took the stage to receive the award, he did it in his name and in the name of his



Actor Antonio Banderas poses with the best actor Palme d'Or award for the film 'Pain and Glory' during a photo call following the awards ceremony at the 72nd international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 25, 2019.

character, or Almodóvar himself.

"I played him and because of that it is an award that I share with him," said Banderas, whose credits with the director include "Labyrinth of Passion." "Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down!" and "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown."

"I am extremely grateful and I have incredible respect and love for this person that has given me so much," he said.

House used in 'Sopranos'TV series on the market

CALDWELL, N.J. (AP)—Two decades after the debut of the Sopranos, the house used in the filming of the HBO series is up for sale—long driveway, kitchen island and all.

The New York Times reports that owners Patti and Victor Recchia listed the North Caldwell, New Jersey home for a "starting price" of \$3.4 million.

While Zillow indicates the price is high for the area, Victor Recchia said it's impossible to quantify "the intrinsic value" of the house that mobster Tony Soprano called home.

The 1.5-acre property comes with a four-bedroom house, two garages and a detached guesthouse.

The house was chosen from 150 considered, the Times reported in 2002. While a studio replica was used for interior scenes after the series pilot, the production crew returned year after year to film the exterior.

Book sales are steady, but tariffs are on publishers' minds

NEW YORK (AP)—Publishers poured champagne and toasted the picture book "Summer," a children's book that is the first American release to come out of a long partnership between Mac-Millan and China's 21st Century Publishing Group, on the floor of the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City last week.

Written by Cao Wenxuan and illustrated by Yu Rong, "Summer" tells the story of a pack of animals that fight over space beneath a tree on a hot day, then learning that they

The judge has ordered the Club Car to turn over surveillance footage from the night in question by Monday.

can provide shade for each other by standing side by side. It is a parable of coop-

eration book publishers hope will apply to the U.S. and China overall.

At the industry convention BookExpo and the fan-based BookCon, which ended Sunday, thousands gathered to talk about upcoming books, hear from favorite authors and review the current market. Sales overall are "solid," if not dynamic, says CEO Simon & Schuster Carolyn Reidy, an assessment others largely agree with, even if no title this year has sold at the level of Michelle Obama's "Becoming" or Michael Wolff's "Fire and Fury." Booksellers anticipate a strong response for such future releases as Jeanine Cummins' "American Dirt" and Margaret Atwood's "The Testaments," her seguel to the million-selling "The Handmaid's Tale."

At the same time, publishing

faces troubling unknowns and adjustments. Barnes & Noble, the country's largest physical book retailer, has been struggling for years and is considering a sale of the company. One of the largest distributors, Baker & Taylor, is ending its retail business, forcing some stores to find new ways to keep books in stock. And publishers again face a potential shortage of printing capacity that resulted in two future Pulitzer Prize winners, David Blight's biography "Frederick Douglass" and Richard Powers' novel "The Overstory," being among numerous releases unavailable for extended stretches late last year.

But the most immediate concern is President Donald Trump's threatened 25% tariff on some \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods, including those from the country's printing facilities. For years, U.S. publishers have relied on China for low-cost, high-capacity printing of four-color books, coffee table editions, Bibles and other standards of the trade and education market. The new tariff would almost surely result in higher prices, with publishers saying a hike of 50 cents or more is possible for a given book.

Releases featured at Book-Expo that could be affected range from Jimmy Fallon's children's story "This Is Baby" to the latest edition of "The Joy of Cooking."

"Following so soon after the major shortages last fall that resulted from domestic print-capacity reductions, these tariffs will bring further disruptions in one of the most important U.S. industries," said Michael Pietsch, CEO of Hachette Book Group.

Lui Simpson, vice president for global policy at the industry trade group the Association of American Publishers, said the impact would extend well beyond publishers.

Groping case against actor Kevin Spacey returns to court NANTUCKET, Mass. Authorities say the assault Friday, Spacey's attorney ac-

(AP)—Lawyers for Kevin Spacey are returning to court in the case accusing the former "House of Cards" star of groping a young man at a bar on the island of Nantucket.

A pretrial hearing is scheduled in the Nantucket District Court on Monday.

happened in 2016 at the Club Car, where the 18-year-old worked as a busboy.

Spacey pleaded not guilty in January to a charge of indecent assault and battery. His lawyers have called the allegations "patently false."

In court documents filed

cused the man of deleting texting text messages that support Spacey's claims of innocence. The accuser's attorney declined to comment.

Escalating violence is signal for wife to leave relationship

EAR ABBY: My husband has always had anger issues. Recently, they have progressed from targeting inanimate objects to targeting me. A few weeks ago, when he got upset, he punched the navigation screen in my car out. Then he proceeded to grab my hair and slammed my head into the car window (it didn't

He apologized later, but I can't forgive him. Maybe I never will. What's worse, I haven't been able to bring myself to leave and don't really know how to. Is this behavior a deal breaker?

break, but my head hurt for more than a week).

STUCK IN MINNESOTA

DEAR STUCK: Yes, this is absolutely a deal breaker. Do not minimize what he did to you. I'm sorry you didn't go to the emergency room after it happened.

Each time your husband attacks will be worse—increasingly so-until he maims or kills you. For your safety you MUST get out of there, and the sooner the better. For directions on how to safely make your exit, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline. The toll-free phone number to call is 800-799-7233 or visit thehotline.org and a counselor there will direct you.

DEAR ABBY: My 5-year-old daughter, "Maude," is afraid of large dogs. In the past, my husband has publicly scolded her

when she cowered away from them.

A friend of our family has a dog that Maude is especially hesitant around, and my daughter recently confided that she no longer wants to go over to this friend's house because of it. She made me promise not to tell her father why. When I told him privately about our conversation, he rolled his eyes and accused our daughter of having a "weak" mentality. Is he being unreasonable or is it just me?

PHRUSTRATED IN PHILLY

DEAR PHRUSTRATED: Your daughter doesn't have a "weak mentality." She's afraid of dogs, and possibly with good reason. Find an animal rescue organization or shelter that encourages the public to spend time socializing with the dogs and cats. It may help to get her past her aversion. It has helped other children, and it's also good for the animals. Give it a try and let me know what happens.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 49-year-old divorcee. A younger man (31) at work is showing an interest in me. We have talked several times about seeing each other outside of work. Also he is African American. I would like to go out with him, but I'm not sure how my family and friends would react. What do you think?

BETWIXT AND BETWEEN

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR BETWIXT: What are you concerned about? Is it that you would be dating a younger man, one of a different race or that he's a co-worker? If it's the latter, and things don't work out, it could be dicey. However, if at this stage of your life you still need approval from friends and family about dating someone you like, it appears you are not ready for a relationship.

TO MY MUSLIM READERS: A happy Eid-al-Fitr, one

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For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Bar Refaeli, 34; Russell Brand, 44; Angelina Jolie, 44; Noah Wyle, 48.

Happy Birthday: Don't buy into someone else's plan. Concentrate on using your strengths and skills to get ahead. Don't be fooled by anyone who tries to make you feel bad or who puts you down. Head in the direction that offers the most promise and that you find positive and fulfilling. A minimalist lifestyle will help you get back on track. Your numbers are 8, 13, 24, 26, 33, 45, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll need to communicate if you want to solve pending problems. Be willing to listen and work with others to come up with solutions that benefit everyone. Anger will not solve problems, but compromise and sharing will. 0000

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A positive change of attitude will please someone who cares about you and how you excel

in life. Experience will prompt you to think twice before you say yes to someone trying to take advantage of you. 🗪 🗘

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): How well you handle your money matters. If you are too accommodating or generous, it will make it easy for someone with less integrity to take advantage of you. Overreacting is not the way to deal with a sensitive situation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep personal secrets hidden. Make a difference to your community, and alter the way you look and present vourself to the world. It's up to you to make the improvements that will enhance your life. OOO

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make a change for the right reason, not because someone is pressuring you to do so. Use your intelligence, and call on people you know you can count on for good advice or for a contribution that

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Embrace the positive people and situations in your life, and stop worrying about what you cannot do or change. Use your skills and strengths to get things done that will help you earn respect from

those who matter. **QQQQ** LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look past any controversy any controversy you face. It's the end result that will count, so stay focused on what you want to achieve, and use your intelligence and worthwhile contacts to help you reach

your goal. Build on solid ground. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll hit the jackpot if you let your passion motivate you and your desire drive you

to the finish line. Follow your heart, and enforce what you want to see transpire. Affection will improve your relationship with someone special. 00000

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Think big, but be reasonable. Don't let anvone mislead vou or talk vou into something you know you shouldn't do. There are no quick fixes or shortcuts, so take your time and

THE LAST WORD

will help you reach your goal. 2000

do things right the first time. •••

EUGENIA

IN ASTROLOGY

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one you love. OOO



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you want help, send a message. Lay out your plans, and gather the information you require to work out any foreseeable kinks. Practical application will bring worthwhile results. Romance will tighten your relationship with some-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let your emotions trick you. Now is not the time to follow your heart. Use your intelligence to guide you in a direction that will

keep you safe from anyone trying to use you. A change of heart is apparent. ••••• PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Change begins within. Mull over incidents and

the type of connection you have had with others. What you have experienced will help you recognize when someone isn't being honest with you. Steer clear of situations that are indulgent or emotionally unhealthy.

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, generous and innovative. You are curious and popular.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku

2 3 difficulty level of the Conceptis 6 Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday. 2 8 4 5 3 8 6 3 8 9 5 4 6 1

By Dave Green

Difficulty Level **

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The

6/04

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HOW TO PLAY; All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDELEWORD. A VISIT TO OKINAWA Solution: 10 letter

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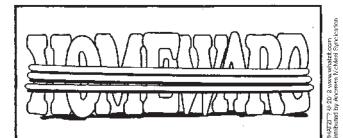
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Warriors rebound in Game 2 to even finals

- The Golden State Warriors relied on a champion's heart to overcome their weary bodies.

Klay Thompson scored 25 points before leaving with a hamstring injury, Stephen Curry had 23 and the Warriors ran off the first 18 points of the second half on the way to a 109-104 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Sunday night that tied the NBA Finals at one game apiece.

With Kevin Durant already out and Thompson eventually joining him in the fourth quarter, the Warriors don't feel great—but they would've felt a whole lot worse flying home in a 2-0 hole.

"I think that when you get to this stage, our DNA shows up," Curry said.

Andre Iguodala, himself slow to get up after a hard fall in the first half, made the clinching 3-pointer with 5.9 seconds left after the Raptors scored 10 straight points to cut it to 106-104.

Kawhi Leonard had 34 points and 14 rebounds for the Raptors. They had won five straight since falling behind 2-0 in the Eastern Conference finals.

Curry appeared to be laboring as well in the first half, returning to the locker room in the midst of six straight misses to start the game.

But the Warriors cobbled together a good enough finish to the second quarter to keep it close, then stormed out of the locker room with one of their vintage third-quarter charges that have been so frequent during their run to five straight NBA Finals.

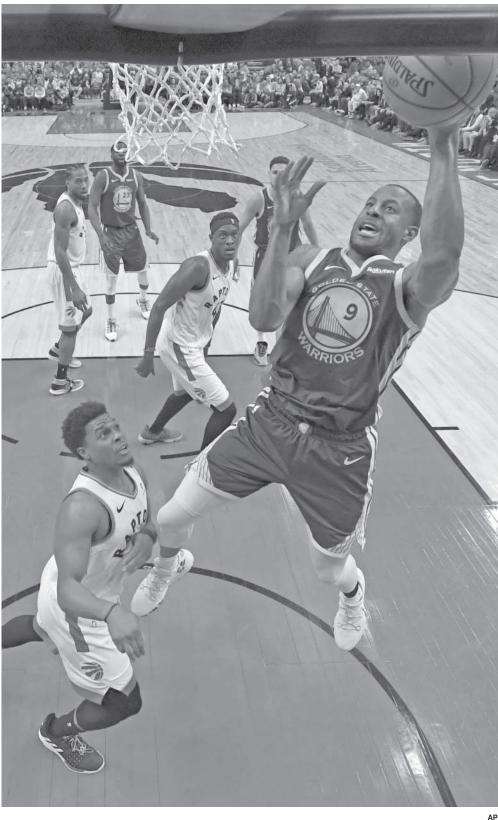
"Third quarter we didn't play well enough. We missed too many shots," Raptors guard Kyle Lowry said. "They got out in transition and got a little confidence going. We lost the game there."

DeMarcus Cousins was inserted into the starting lineup and delivered 11 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, and Draymond Green had 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists—missing by one assist a fourth straight triple-double.

The series moves to their Oracle Arena for Games 3 and 4, with the first NBA Finals to be played outside the U.S. assured of returning to Canada for Game 5.

The Warriors will hope to have enough healthy bodies to get through it. Thompson landed awkwardly after a 3-point attempt early in the fourth quarter and limped off soon after, with backup center Kevon Looney already missing the second half with a chest or shoulder injury.

And Golden State is still



Golden State Warriors' Andre Iguodala (9) shoots over Toronto Raptors' Kyle Lowry as Pascal Siakam (43) looks on during Game 2 of the NBA Finals, Sunday, June 2, 2019, in Toronto.

without Durant, who missed his seventh straight game with a strained right calf but hopes to return during the series.

For now, they got key contributions from Quinn Cook, who hit three 3-pointers, and veteran center Andrew Bogut, who wasn't even part of the roster most of the season but came off the bench for three baskets.

"It was a great win. We got to go home and protect our home floor and we'll see about all the injuries," coach Steve Kerr said. "But I'm very proud of our team and in particular all the guys off the bench."

Kerr said Thompson told him that he thought his injury was minor and he'd be fine, but added that "Klay could be half dead and he would say he would be fine." Kerr was unsure the nature of Looney's injury.

Fred VanVleet scored 17

points for the Raptors, who had red T-shirts with their slogan "We The North" hanging on seats around the arena.

The Warriors sure were seeing red, especially Curry, during a mostly miserable first half when they missed 20 of their first 28 shots.

He hung his head and didn't even attempt to run back when VanVleet stole the ball from him and made a layup to give Toronto an 11-point lead with a little more than 2 minutes remaining in the half.

But Curry made two free throws for the final points of the half to cut it to 59-54, then the Warriors came back and pitched a shutout until nearly the midpoint of the third quarter during a serieschanging—perhaps seasonchanging—swing.

Iguodala had five quick points including a 3-pointer that moved Golden State into the lead at 61-59. The surge continued with three straight baskets from Thompson and three more from Green, whose last one capped the 18-0 run that Elias said was the longest to start a half in NBA Finals history and made it 72-59 before Toronto finally got on the board with a 3-pointer with VanVleet with 6:20 remaining in the period.

"They moved the ball really well and were running freely," Raptors center Marc Gasol said. "Once they run freely, everything opens up for them."

The Warriors had won 12 straight Game 1s and this was their first time playing from behind in the finals since they were down 2-1 to Cleveland in 2015. They showed no signs of concern during the off days, and Thompson suggested part of the problem during their 118-109 loss Thursday was rust after they had nine days

off in between series.

Thompson: I don't see myself missing Game 3

Thompson said that he doesn't expect to miss any time. "No, I don't see myself

missing Game 3," Thompson

said. "I'll be fine. That was a good win for us tonight." The Warriors will not prac-

tice on Monday, and Thompson will receive around-theclock treatment leading up to Wednesday's Game 3 at Oracle Arena in Oakland, Calif.

He's expected to undergo an MRI on Monday, but the organization is of the belief the injury isn't serious and expects him to be available Wednesday.

For Raptors, a bad 6-minute stretch proved very costly

TORONTO (AP)—It all came apart in about six minutes for the Toronto Raptors.

They went scoreless over their first 12 possessions of the second half, a stretch during which what had been a double-digit lead late in the second quarter became a double-digit deficit to the Golden State Warriors.

With that, the lead was gone for good.

And so, too, is the Raptors' home-court advantage in the NBA Finals. The Warriors were tested late but held on. ultimately defeating the Raptors 109-104 in Game 2 to even the title series.

Game 3 is Wednesday night on the Warriors' home floor. Oracle Arena.

"We had four or five decent possessions there and we just came away empty on all of them," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "And then we had probably four or five that were not good possessions, either. So certainly, the offense hurt the chance to get the defense set up there. I'm going to have to re-watch that.

"Probably not going to enjoy that very much, but I'm going to have to check it out.'

The costly six minutes included: Eight missed shots by Toronto, five turnovers and 18 consecutive points given up to the Warriorsthe biggest run of consecutive points to open a half in NBA Finals history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Throw in the last two points of the half for Golden State, and it was a 20-0 run in longest ever in a finals game.

Pascal Siakam was 0 for 3 in that bad stretch. Kawhi Leonard was 0 for 2, as was Marc Gasol—who had two of the turnovers on offensive fouls. Fred VanVleet missed a 3-point try.

They led 47-35 in the second quarter, 58-48 late in the half and the Warriors, in a flash, turned that around and went up 72-59. Add it all up, and it was a 24-1 run for the two-time defending champions.

"Third quarter, we didn't play well enough," Raptors guard Kyle Lowry said. "We missed too many shots. They got out in transition and got a little confidence going. We lost the game there. Missing shots and not getting back on defense hurt us."

Even after all that sputtering, the Raptors still had chances.

Leonard made three free throws—two for a foul, one more for a technical on Stephen Curry-with 1:08 left to get the Raptors within 106-101. The Raptors forced a turnover on the next possession, and then got a 3-pointer from Danny Green with 27 seconds left to close the deficit to two.

Then they needed to get as defensive stop.

They didn't get it. A helter-skelter possession for Golden State was capped by Andre Iguodala's 3-pointer with 5.9 seconds left, allowing the Warriors to escape Toronto with a series split.

"It was all about our defense and we held them to 37 percent and forced 15 turnovers and guarded the 3-point line well," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "So it was championship defense—and that's what it's going to take.'

There will be more than the bad stretch for the Raptors to lament before Game 3 rolls around.

The Raptors shot only 37 percent. They were 11 for 38 from 3-point range. They couldn't take advantage of the Warriors again being without Kevin Durant, losall, which Elias said was the ing Klay Thompson in the fourth quarter with hamstring tightness and seeing key reserve big-man Kevon Looney leave with a chest contusion.

> Now they'll need to win at least once on the Warriors' home floor to win a title.

"We're in the same boat they kind of were in coming here," Nurse said. "We got to go out there and get one, right? That's all we got to do is get one. And we can do that."

Scherzer strikes out 15 as Nats beat Red



Scherzer struck out a season high 15, allowing three hits over eight innings, leading Washington over Cincinnati 4-1 on Sunday, the Nationals' 12th win in 14 games against the Reds.

When manager Dave Martinez visited the mound with a runner on second and two outs in the ninth, Scherzer told him emphatically to keep him in the game. Scherzer then fanned Joey Votto on three straight called strikes.

Scherzer (3-5) reached double figures in strikeouts for the fourth time in 13 starts this season and 86th time in his career.

Sean Doolittle pitched a perfect ninth for his 12th save as Washington won for the seventh time in nine games.

Sonny Gray (2-5) gave up two runs and five hits in five innings.

Anthony Rendon had three hits, including an RBI single in the first, and raised his average to .331.

Yankees 8, Red Sox 5

In New York, David Price finally won at Yankee Stadium for the first time with Boston, backed by early homers from J.D. Martinez and Xander Bogaerts.

Boston stopped a four-game losing streak and improved to 1-4 against the Yankees this season, preventing a threegame sweep in a series shortened by a rainout.

The third-place Red Sox moved within 8 1/2 games of the AL East-leading Yankees, who have a 2 1/2-game advantage over Tampa Bay. The next time baseball's biggest rivals meet will be June 29-30 in London, with Boston the home team for the first two major league games in Europe. The Yankees, who lost for only the fourth time in 19 games, don't visit Fenway Park until July 25-28.

Price (3-2) permitted two runs and six hits with six strikeouts in 6 1/3 innings, outpitching CC Sabathia (3-2) in a matchup of AL Cy Young Award winners. Sabathia yielded three runs in six innings.

Twins 9, Rays 7

In St. Petersburg, Tampa Bay's Jake Odorizzi (8-2) won his eighth straight decision, allowing three hits and striking out nine in six scoreless innings to lower his AL-best ERA to 1.96.

Minnesota, a big leaguebest 40-18, won three in a row after losing the series opener 14-3.



Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Sunday, June 2, 2019, in Cincinnati.

Rutschman, Witt, and Vaughn lead list of draft prospects

NEW YORK (AP)—Adley Rutschman has been a powerful presence at the plate and a formidable force behind it for Oregon State.

That tantalizing combination could make the switchhitting catcher the No. 1 overall pick in the Major League Baseball draft Monday night.

Baltimore leads things off for the second time in franchise history, and first since it selected LSU pitcher Ben Mc-Donald in 1989. Rutschman, a Golden Spikes Award final-

C.J. Cron had a three-run double during a four-run fifth off Rvan Yarbrough (4-2), helping the Twins open a 7-0 lead.

White Sox 2, Indians O

In Chicago, Lucas Giolito (8-1) tossed five-hit ball for 7 2/3 innings to win his sixth straight start. He struck out nine and walked none while extending his scoreless streak to 14 1/3 innings.

Aaron Bummer got two outs in the eighth and Alex Colome finished for his 12th save for Chicago. Tim Anderson homered leading off the fourth against Zach Plesac (0-1) and hit an RBI double in the eighth against A.J. Cole.

Cardinals 2, Cubs 1

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright (5-5) overcame a ist and the Pac-12 player of the year, has been linked to the Orioles at No. 1 for most of the college season.

Texas high school shortstop Bobby Witt Jr., the son of former major league pitcher Bobby Witt; Cal first baseman Andrew Vaughn; Vanderbilt outfielder JJ Bleday; and Georgia high school shortstop CJ Abrams are also possibilities to have their names called early by Commissioner Rob Manfred at MLB Network studios in Se-

career-high seven walks to pitch eight shutout innings and beat Cole Hamels (4-2) as the Cardinals completed a threegame sweep.

The Cardinals got just four hits in their fourth straight win. Chicago was limited to three hits, and lost for the sixth time in seven games.

hit until Kris Bryant singled with one out in the sixth. He gave up two hits and struck out eight.

Hamels gave up one unearned run and two hits over seven innings.

Kolten Wong hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth and pinchhitter Matt Carpenter added a two-out, RBI single off Mike Montgomery in the eighth.

Addison Russell hit an RBI grounder in the ninth off John Gant, who got his third save when David Bote

caucus, New Jersey.

"It's hard to understate it - it's a huge opportunity," Baltimore general manager Mike Elias said. "Any time you're picking high in the draft, not just the No. 1 pick, but a top-10 pick, you've got a pretty good shot of really getting a franchise cornerstone. But it's not a 100% shot by any stretch of the imagination. It's probably more like 50-50 if you look at the historical records of it. So you feel a lot of pres-

grounded out.

Rangers 5, Royals 1

In Arlington, Adrian Sampson (4-3) struck out a career-high 11 in seven innings, allowing one run and eight hits as he earned his first major league win as a starter.

Brad Keller (3-7) gave up Wainwright didn't allow a three runs in seven innings. Kansas City ended a 1-6 trip that left the Royals a major league-worst 8-23 on the road.

> Texas took a 1-0 lead in the third on three opposite-field singles and added two runs in the fifth, the second on an opposite-field single by Nomar Mazara.

Giants 8, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Brandon Crawford had his first multihomer game since August 2015, and Evan Longoria had a solo shot that stopped an 0-for-21 skid,

sure. There's a big upside to the opportunity, but nobody has a crystal ball and it's not easy to nail.

"So we just do as much work as we can going into it, and do what we think is right."

That could lead to the Orioles doing what has been expected for weeks: taking the impressive Rutschman, who hit .411 with a career-best 17 homers with 58 RBIs and threw out 13 of 27 baserunners for the Beavers.

leading San Francisco.

Bruce Bochy needs one win to join John McGraw as the only managers in Giants history with 1,000.

Jeff Samardzija (3-4) allowed three hits and struck out six over six innings.

Gabriel Ynoa (0-2) gave up four runs - two earned and five hits in five innings for the Orioles, a big leagueworst 18-41.

Trey Mancini homered for Baltimore, which managed only four hits.

Braves 7, Tigers 4

In Atlanta, Dansby Swanson homered, drove in three runs and scored the tiebreaker on Freddie Freeman's double off Joe Jimenez (2-3) in the eighth.

Touki Toussaint (3-0) got one out in the eighth.

Atlanta took two of three from the Tigers for its first

home interleague series win since also winning two of three against Detroit in 2016. Atlanta was 0-5-3 in its last eight home series against American League teams.

Brewers 4, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Pirates starter Zach Davies (6-0) allowed eight hits over eight-plus innings, struck out three and walked one.

Corbin Burnes inherited a two-on, one-out jam in the ninth but wiggled free for his first save this season and second of his big career.

Eric Thames hit a two-run homer and an RBI double for Milwaukee.

Jordan Lyles (5-3) gave up four runs and eight hits in six innings.

Dodgers 8, Phillies 0

In Los Angeles, Rich Hill (2-1) struck out nine and scattered three hits over seven innings, and West-leading Dodgers completed a threegame sweep of East-leading Philadelphia.

Joc Pederson homered to cap a seven-run eighth inning. The Dodgers extended their winning streak to five with their seventh series sweep. Philadelphia has lost four in a row for the first time this season.

David Freese homered for the second straight game, connecting in the seventh against Vince Velasquez (2-3).

Diamondbacks 7, Mets 1

In Phoenix, Merrill Kelly (5-6) struck out a career-high 10, and Ketel Marte hit a long homer and had three RBIs for Arizona.

Marte hit his first career leadoff home run, a 482-foot shot off Steven Matz (4-4) that matched Texas' Nomar Mazara for longest in the majors this season. He added a tworun single in the eighth.

Eduardo Escobar also hit a two-run shot in the first.

Rockies 5, Blue Jays 1

In Denver, Antonio Senzatela (4-4) allowed one run and four hits in six innings, Chris Iannetta homered and Colorado won its eighth straight game. The Rockies swept their weekend set against the struggling Blue Jays to close out a 9-1 homestand.

Nolan Arenado homered and singled while extending his hitting streak to 13 games, and Raimel Tapia increased his hit streak to 12 games. David Dahl added an RBI double.

Toronto completed a winless six-game trip. Aaron Sanchez (3-6) lost his careerworst fifth straight decision, alowing four runs and seven hits in six innings.

Nadal, Federer enter French Open quarters

PARIS (AP)—Roger Federer's return to French Open clay is going so smoothly he still has not dropped a set in reaching the quarterfinals.

The 20-time Grand Slam winner eased through with a 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 win Sunday against unseeded Argentine Leonardo Mayer and is one match away from a potential semifinal—and a 39th career match—against defending champion and longtime rival Rafael Nadal.

Nadal won by the same score as Federer on Sunday, but he was at least given a little bit more of a test by another unseeded Argentine, Juan Ignacio Londero.

While Federer did not face a single break point in beating Mayer for the fourth time in four meetings, Nadal dropped his serve once-late in the third set-and saved four other break-point chances in his first-ever match against the quick-hitting Londero.

Serving at 40-30 in the eighth game of the third set, Nadal was given a time violation warning, which he felt was the correct call made in the wrong circumstances because of persistent talking from the crowd as he prepared to serve in that game, and during his previous service game.

"Ok, I agree with you but (they are) still talking," Nadal told the chair umpire, referring to the crowd.

Nadal held with an ace for 5-3, and then broke Londero for the sixth time to clinch victory.

Federer won his only French Open in 2009, the year Nadal lost to big-serving Swede Robin Soderling in the

fourth round.

The 37-year-old Federer is now into a record-extending 54th Grand Slam quarterfinal overall, compared to 38 for Nadal, which is fourth alltime. Federer also became the third oldest man to reach the last eight at Roland Garros.

"Of course the hope was to formance."

go deep and I'm in the quarters now, so I'm very, very happy at this point," Federer said. "I served super well and Leonardo had trouble returning. I was able to put pressure on him and I'm very happy with my perAfter dropping his serve to lose the second set, Mayer angrily swiped the ball

away and was given a code violation warning for ball abuse.

Federer was looking so clinical and assured that the crowd at a sun-baked Philippe Chatrier groaned in in 2015. That was also the last

disbelief when he missed an easy-looking forehand volley at the net, early in the third set.

It was the second time Federer has beaten Mayer at a Grand Slam—the other also coming in straight sets, in the first round of the U.S. Open

Spain's Rafael Nadal plays a shot against Argentina's Juan Ignacio Londero during their fourth round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Sunday, June 2, 2019.

year Federer had played at Roland Garros, before skipping clay entirely until returning to the surface this year.

Four years ago, Federer lost in the quarterfinals to Swiss countryman Stan Wawrinka in straight sets.

He next faces either Wawrinka or rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas, who beat Federer in the fourth round at this year's Australian Open.

They were playing their fourth-round match Sunday on neighboring Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Earlier Sunday, Petra Martic followed up her win over second-seeded Karolina Pliskova by rallying past Kaia Kanepi 5-7, 6-2, 6-4 on center court to reach her first Grand Slam quarterfinal.

The 31st-seeded Croat next faces Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova, who reached her first quarterfinal at a major without dropping a set. The 19-year-old Vondrousova beat 12th-seeded Anastasija Sevastova of Latvia 6-2, 6-0 in just 59 minutes.

Also advancing to the last eight was 26th-seeded Briton Johanna Konta, who beat 23rd-seeded Donna Vekic 6-2, 6-4. Konta's quarterfinal opponent will be either 2016 champion Garbiñe Muguruza or 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens.

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)—Jack Nicklaus is a gracious tournament host at the Memorial who doesn't mince words, and it paid off for Patrick Cantlay.

When they bumped into each other earlier in the week in the grill room, Nicklaus told him he had to learn how to finish. And then when Cantlay saw him again at lunch going into the weekend, Nicklaus told him how.

Nicklaus said to have fun, to look around at all the fans having a great time, to relax and to go win the golf tournament.

Cantlay had a blast Sunday with the best closing round by a winner in the 44 years of the Memorial. He rallied from four shots behind with an 8-under 64, a round so under control that Cantlay's longest putt for par was from 8 feet on the final hole, with Nicklaus watching behind the 18th green.

He poured it in to secure a twoshot victory over Adam Scott.

"I finished it," Cantlay said to Nicklaus as he walked off the green.

Cantlay rallies from 4 back to win Memorial

Martin Kaymer, trying to end five years without a victory, started with a two-shot lead and never recovered from a four-hole stretch on the back nine when he made consecutive bogeys and failed to birdie the par-5 15th. He closed with a 72 and finished third.

Scott was the last player to have a chance and ran off three straight birdies until narrowly two holes. He shot 68.

"Being able to win on this golf course, in front of Jack, making that putt on the last hole, I can't tell you how good it feels," he said.

Engaging private, in Cantlay doesn't smile much on the golf course and isn't about to force one. But the advice from Nicklaus-Cantlay first met him when he won the Jack Nicklaus Award as the nation's best college player in 2011—stuck with him.

Look around, soak it up and

"I definitely said that to myself down the stretch today on the back nine," said Cantlay, who finished at 19-under 269. "It put me a little more at ease, and I hit a lot of really nice, quality shots with the lead."

Cantlay first caught Kaymer with a 3-wood to 10 feet for missing birdie putts on the last a two-putt birdie on the 11th. Kaymer, in the group behind him, matched the birdie. That was his last one. Cantlay followed with an 18-foot birdie putt on No. 14 and a 5-iron that set up a long two-putt birdie on the par-5 15th.

By then, Kaymer was making bogevs and Scott was stuck in neutral until it was too late.

"I knew that you can't really make any mistakes coming down the stretch," said Kaymer, whose last victory was by eight shots in the 2014 U.S. Open at Pinehurst No.

2. "But all credit to Patrick. He played a great round of

> —19-under par is amazing.'

> > Scott finished at 19

under at Torrey Pines and lost two by to Justin Rose. He was 17 under at the Memorial only six players have done better at Muirfield Village, one of them being Cantlay on separate from his golf. Sunday.

"It's disappointing not to win, for sure," Scott said. "I really played good golf this week, and it just wasn't good enough."

Cantlay's only disappointment was that it took him 19 months to win for the second time on the PGA Tour. But then, he hasn't been around as long as it seems. Cantlay was low amateur in the 2011 U.S. Open, and the next week shot a 60 at the Travelers Championship.

But his career took a severe

turn on and off the golf course, first with a back injury that golf. He deserved to win kept him out of golf entirely for two full years and left him wondering if he would ever make it back. Then, he was out of dinner one night with his best friend and caddie, Chris Roth, when Roth was stuck by a car and killed.

Cantlay says it changed him as a person, but he keeps that

His golf has been good for a long time, and this was a big step.

Tiger shifts focus to US Open

With the championship hardware out of reach in Sunday's final round of the Memorial, Tiger Woods turned his eye toward the U.S. Open.

He liked what he saw.

Woods polished off his final competitive work before the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach June 13-16 with a 5-under-par 67 at Muirfield Village, a score

that once again fell short of reaching possible special status that Woods seemed poised to deliver with a spectacular front nine.

All in all, however, Woods' yo-yo week positioned him on the coveted path to Monterey Peninsula. While he moved up the leaderboard Sunday in the tournament he's won a record five times, he finished well behind the leaders after rounds of 70-72-70-67 but left the premises with some bounce in his step.

"It could have been a little better, for sure," said Woods, who birdied seven of his first 12 holes and got within four of the leaders before two bogeys coming in took some sting out of the round. "Going into today I was never going to win the tournament, but I was hoping I could get something positive going into the Open, and I was able to accomplish that, which is great, to get some nice positive momentum going into a nice practice week. Each day I got a little crisper."

Out of turmoil, Infantino to lead FIFA into calmer era

PARIS (AP)—After years of turmoil for FIFA, Gianni Infantino this week will get a fresh four-year presidential term to lead world soccer in relative calm.

The 49-year-old Swiss-Italian lawyer's rise still rankles with those who thought the FIFA presidency was their destiny. Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini—both banned by the FIFA ethics committee—are expected to make headline-grabbing interventions ahead of Infantino's unopposed re-election in Paris on Wednesday.

Still, it will be the man once best known for hosting Champions League draw ceremonies who takes FIFA toward a 2022 World Cup in Qatar, preparing the 2026 edition in North America, and picking the 2030 host.

Infantino seized his election chance in February 2016, months after American and Swiss federal investigations of financial corruption rocked international soccer.

Blatter, FIFA's then-president, was forced out. His long-

fight to Colin Oyama. Coach

somehow, someway was able

to bring these skill sets out for

this fight," said Camacho after

the TKO victory over Hein at

the 4:56 mark of Round 2 of

time protege, Platini, also had to leave as president of European soccer body UEFA. Infantino, who was Platini's general secretary at UEFA, stepped up as Europe's candidate.

A generation of soccer leaders in North and South America were swept from power by

After recording his first win of the year and second at the Ultimate Fighting Championship stage, Camacho said he will not rest on his laurels and will get back to work to prepare for one or two more fights this season.

"I will get back to training next week," the Saipanraised athlete.



their three-round duel.

'CRANK'

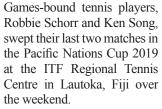
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nior Championships is Lee's best showing in a Grade 1 competition and this guarantees the CNMI bet 130 ranking points. Lee's previous best performance in a Grade 1 event (doubles) was a semis appearance in the Copa Mundial Campache in Mexico in November last year. She had a pair of quarterfinals stints in a Grade 2 event in South Korea and Italy, was a Round of 16 qualifier in another Italian and Grade 1 tournament, champion of a Grade 5 event in Fiji, and a semifinalist in a Grade 4 competition, also in Fiji.

Lee, as of May 27, is ranked No. 126 in the world and is expected to climb up the ladder once the points she earned from her first tournament in Belgium are counted in. The junior player, who will lead the CNMI National Women's Team in the 2019 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa this summer, achieved her highest ranking (No. 119) in March this year after winning a singles event (Grade 3) in Casablanca, Morocco.

Strong finish for Schorr, Song

Meanwhile, two more Pacific



Schorr and Song, who missed the playoffs in the main draw of the Men's League, played in the games that determined the No. 9 to 14 finishers in the competition and topped the group after dominating the Fiji Development Team and Nauru in similar scores, 3-0.

Song shut down Nauru's Robert Hubert and Schorr did the same to Dallas Addi, while the Commonwealth players completed the sweep last Saturday after whipping the pair of Hubert and Delvin Thomas, 6-1, 6-0.

Then last Sunday, Song also blanked Fiji's Avikash Kumar, while Schorr coasted past Storm Cornish, 6-2, 6-2. The CNMI players needed only two sets, too in their doubles victory over Cornish and Shantanu Shail, 6-1, 6-4.

In other results, Tahiti won the men's division of the Pacific Nations Cup after downing Fiji Men, 2-1, while Samoa took the women's title after also beating Fiji, 2-1.



In the Infantino era, soccer's other four continental governing bodies each lost elected FIFA Council members amid allegations of corruption or financial misjudgments.

FIFA senior vice president David Chung of Papua New Guinea was banned for 6½ years. Kwesi Nyantakyi of Ghana was banned for life. Sheikh Ahmad of Kuwait withdrew his re-election candidacy when implicated in bribing voters. Reinhard Grindel of Germany resigned.

Infantino was also investigated, and soon cleared, in 2016 by the FIFA ethics committee for his use of private jets. The investigators and judges who ran that case, from Germany, Guam and Switzerland, were gone within a year.

Another independent official left abruptly weeks after finding that the Russian sports minister was too conflicted

to retain his FIFA Council seat. Infantino built

a reputation in 15 years at UEFA as a smart lawyer, effective operator, and

hard worker making equal demands on himself and staff.

His single-minded drive could defy advice to be more cautious. That was shown in upending the FIFA ethics committee, which got more independence and power after FIFA's previous corruption crisis in 2010 and '11.

In a gift to his critics, Infantino ousted his chief prosecutor in the same week Donald Trump fired James Comey as FBI Director in May 2017.

Infantino even spoke of "fake news" then to denounce some reports.

FIFA° CON

Infantino created a small circle of trusted aides

at FIFA, while easing out Blatter-era management. Current and former staffers have said he was more distant than Blatter's

warmer, familial style.

A FIFA-appointed panel set up in 2015 to recommend post-corruption changes included Infantino as a member. The slate of reforms approved on the day he was elected included empowering the secretary general, with the president taking an "ambassador" role.

Few, however, would say secretary general Fatma Samoura holds the real power at FIFA.

Like Trump, Infantino has

FIFA president Gianni Infantino talks during a press conference after a FIFA Council Meeting, Friday, March 15, 2019, in Miami.

courted Saudi Arabia and praised Vladimir Putin.

Russia was a key ally of Infantino's first term. It hosted a 2018 World Cup treated warily by many fans and sponsors, and boycotted by lawmakers in some countries.

The tournament delivered a warmer welcome, more thrilling games, and greater profits for FIFA than expected. Infantino told Putin at the Kremlin he felt "like a child in a toy shop."

The FIFA president's faith in the little-tested video review refereeing system was also vindicated.

Infantino's judgment was less sure in two projects widely seen as favoring the Saudis.

Even he acknowledged it would be hard persuading Qatar to accept expanding its 32-team World Cup to 48, and share games with Gulf neighbors.

FIFA kept pushing what seemed a proxy dispute in the ongoing boycott of Qatar led by the Saudis and United Arab Emirates. It continued despite global outrage at the murder last October of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. The 48-team plan was dropped last month.

Infantino also angered many in Europe by trying to agree to a secretive \$25 billion deal with investors he would not identify to partown a bigger Club World Cup and a new competition for national teams.



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Ge" Basa Pangelinan ball-fields, which are now ready for use. They also helped us fix the front fence (facing Beach Road) and they loaned us equipment to work the grounds," Rogolifoi said.

The roofing at the "Tan Ge" field has been repaired, too, while a few more work will be done at the "Tan Ko" pitch, which will be used for the upcoming 2019 Saipan Baseball League. Then last Saturday, the front parking lot of the sports complex went through water blasting.

"Little by little, we're trying to fix things here with the help of the Saipan Mayor's Office, while we're waiting for FEMA's help," the NMSA official said.

NMSA has already turned in some paperwork for the repairs needed at the Oleai facilities to FEMA early this year. A separate 10-project proposal to the CNMI Office of the Planning and Development was also submitted last



Workers clean the parking lot of the Oleai Sports Complex.

oorts Complex. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

February with majority of the suggested improvements are from the facilities located at the sports complex.

Meanwhile, NMSA, according to Rogolifoi, has also submitted a budget proposal to the Office of the Governor

for the 2020 fiscal year and has yet to get an update from Capitol Hill, while the budget for the remaining months of 2019 has been cut by 30 percent due to the government's austerity measures.

NMSA, besides the money

it is getting from the government in the past several years, uses its earnings from lottery/ scratch cards for the maintenance and operation of the sports complex and to support CNMI athletes' participation in off-island tournaments.



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Warriors rebound in Game 2 to even finals

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Scherzer strikes out 15 as Nats beat Red

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Carol reaches finale in Belgium



roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

he CNMI's Carol Lee marched all the way to the finals of the doubles event of her debut tournament in Belgium. The 17-year-old and her teammate, Skyler Marie Grace Grishuk of the U.S., advanced to the title game of the doubles competition in the 55th Astrid Bowl Charleroi/Belgian International Junior Championships after pulling off an upset over No. 3 seed and American pair Hurricane Tyra Black and Gabriella Price, 6-2, 6-4, in their semis game last Saturday at the Royal Astrid Tennis Club in Charleroi-Marcinelle.

World Tennis Tour

Then in last Sunday's finale, Lee and Grishuk were pitted against the unranked duo of Veronika Pepelyaeva and Avelina Sayfetdinova. The Russian pair, who moved into the title match after eliminating No. 5 Alexandra Eala of the Philippines and Annerly Poulos of Australia, 6-4, 6-4, ended up stunning Lee and Grishuk, 6-4, 6-2, to rule the tournament.

Despite the loss, the finals stint in the doubles event in the Belgian International Ju-

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'Crank' pummels opponent



The Crank" Camacho, left, and Germany's Nick "Sergeant" Hein pose for a photo before heading into the octagon cage for their lightweight bout in UFC Fight Night 153 last Sunday in Stockholm, Sweden.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The fight statistics for the bout between Frank "The Crank" Camacho

and Germany's Nick "Sergeant" Hein is out with the Marianas warrior on point with his strikes en route to dominating their lightweight bout in UFC Fight Night 153 last Sunday in Stockholm, Sweden.

Camacho threw strikes and landed 105, more than doubling Hein's, according to mmation.com website. The German landed only 45 of his 87 strikes. Of the 208, Camacho had 201 significant strikes and 100 of them hit Hein, who let go only 79 significant strikes and connected just 37.

The Team Oyama standout also effective took away Hein's ability to bring the match down to the canvas, as the latter attempted the

maneuver only three times and succeeded once.

Camacho's was also solid on his head and body shots, 68-20, and 30-8. The

only statistics that Hein won was the leg hits, 9-2, but that did not prevent Camacho from earning one of his best victories in his MMA career.

"It would have to be up there in my Top 5 best fights. I had lots of fun and learned so much more about myself in this fight," said Camacho, who thank Team Oyama for helping him prepare for his first bout of the season and rediscovering the skills that effectively stopped his opponent.

"I've always been able to kick knee and punch, also wrestle and do jiu jitsu. It's why I train multiple disciplines every week. I really owe the success of this

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Saipan Mayor's Office helps clear sports complex

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The fences are up, the parking lot has been cleared, and the two ballfields at the Oleai Sports Complex are now playable, thanks to the Saipan

Mayor's Office.

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifoi said that for the last few months, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang through

his office's employees has tober last year. been assisting NMSA staff in cleaning and clearing the sports complex and its facilities that sustained significant damage from Super Typhoon Yutu in Oc-

"We are very grateful to Mayor Apatang and his dedicated staff for helping us clear the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios and Miguel "Tan

See SAIPAN on Page 27



Workers fix the roofing of the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO